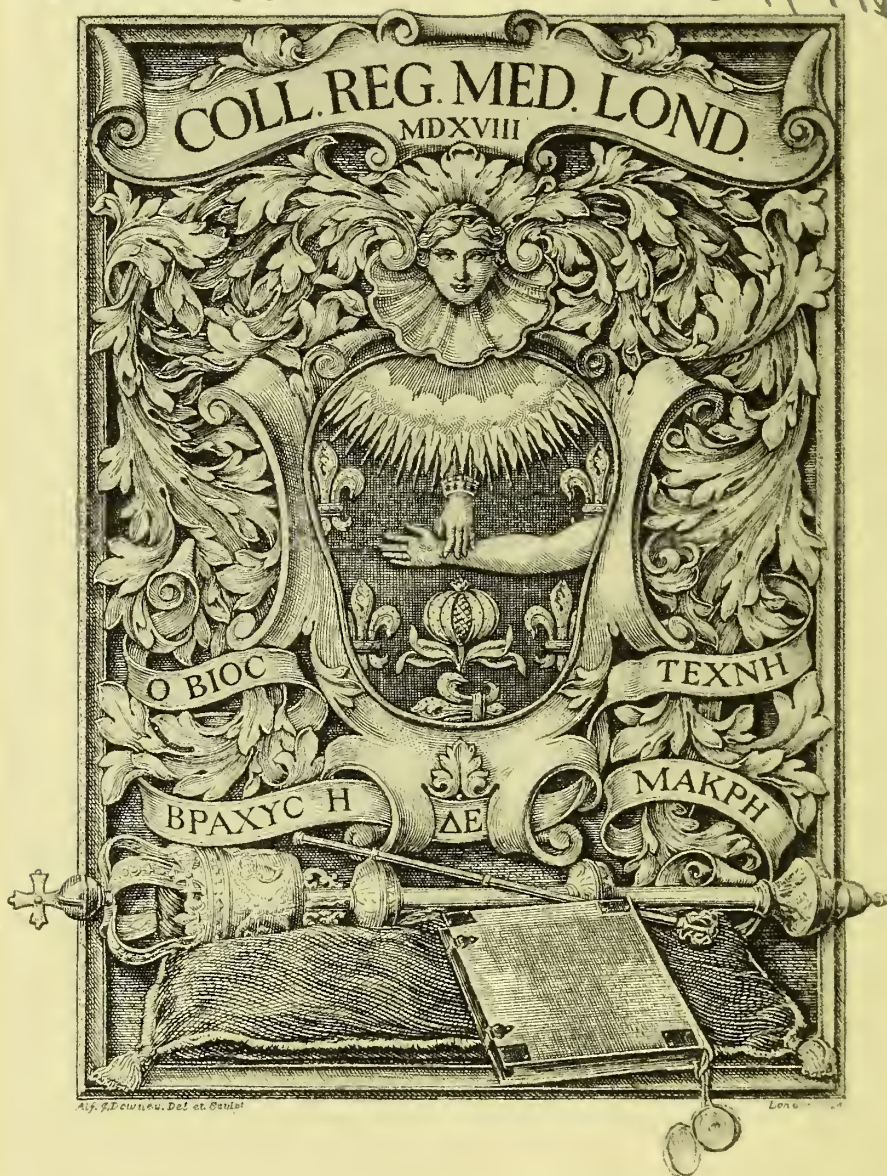



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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS,

APRIL 6TH, 1903,

BY

SIR W. S. CHURCH, BART., K.C.B., M.D.,

PRESIDENT.

London

ADLARD AND SON

20 HANOVER SQUARE, W., & BARTHOLOMEW CLOSE, E.C.

1903



seats had been allotted to him and the Presidents of the other Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons in the United Kingdom, in the nave of the Abbey.

State of the College.—On the 1st of January of the present year the number of Fellows on the roll was 313 ; Members, 461 ; Licentiates, 9273 ; and of the old order of *extra urbem* Licentiates, 5. This shows an increase of 4 Fellows, 2 Members, and 401 Licentiates as compared with the numbers in 1902. During the presidential year 8 Fellows, to whom I shall refer later on, and 12 Members have been lost by death, and one Fellow and one Member have resigned. One extra Licentiate and, so far as is known, 55 Licentiates died during the year 1902.

Fourteen Members were admitted to the Fellowship, and 28 Members and 472 Licentiates were added to the roll of the College.

Royal Honours.—On June 26th, the day originally fixed for the Coronation, His Majesty the King was pleased to confer a Baronetcy on Sir Francis Laking, K.C.V.O., M.D., Physician in Ordinary to His Majesty and a Member of the College. On the same date the King was pleased to confer on your President the honour of a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath ; and at the same time the honour of being a Companion of the Order of the Bath on Benjamin Arthur Whitelegge, Chief Inspector of Factories and a Fellow.

Upon Sir Isambard Owen, Senior Deputy Chancellor of the University of Wales, the King was graciously pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood. Among the new year honours of the present year Sir John Williams, Bart., received from His

Majesty the honour of being made a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

The University of Durham, on April 25th, conferred on your President the degree of Doctor of Civil Law "Honoris Causâ," and I must here acknowledge the kindness with which I was received by the Warden of the University, Professors Sir G. Philipson and Page, and other Members of the University.

Awards of Medals and Scholarships.—The Bisset Hawkins Memorial Medal awarded triennially by the President for work done in advancing sanitary science and promoting public health was awarded by him to William Henry Power, F.R.S., C.B., Medical Officer of the Local Government Board. This was the second award of the medal which has been made. Mr. Power was present at the Harveian Oration on St. Luke's Day, and received the medal in person.

The Jenks Memorial Scholarship was bestowed, on the nomination of the Presidents of the two Royal Colleges, on Mr. John Webster, of Epsom College, now a student at Owens College. *The Charles Murchison Memorial Scholarship* was not awarded, no candidate in the opinion of the College examiners having sufficiently distinguished himself in the examination to entitle him to the scholarship. It is very much to be regretted that the existence of this scholarship is not more widely known in the medical schools of the kingdom, and that a keener competition for it does not exist.

The President, in conjunction with the President of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Director-General of the Medical Service of the Navy, adjudicated the *Gilbert Blane Medals*, which are given

every two years, to Surgeon Christopher L. W. Bunton, R.N., M.B., of His Majesty's ship "Forte;" and to Staff-Surgeon John Falconer Hall, R.N., M.B., of His Majesty's Naval Brigade, North China.

The Harveian Oration and Foundation Lectures.—Dr. Ferrier delivered the Harveian Oration on St. Luke's Day, in which he traced "The Relationship of the Heart and the Nervous System;" a connection unknown to Harvey, with which we have only slowly become acquainted through the researches of Remak, Bidder, Ludwig, and, more recently still, of Gaskell.

The Croonian Lectures, which should have been delivered in June, were postponed in the hope that Dr. Washbourn would have recovered sufficiently to deliver them in November; his illness unfortunately terminated in death, and as it was found that the materials for the lectures were so far advanced that after slight revision from his co-worker, Dr. J. W. H. Eyre, they were in a fit state for publication, the Censors' Board decided that they should be read to the College, his former friend and colleague, Dr. Hale White, undertaking this duty. The usual College Lectures have been given this year—the Milroy by Dr. Bulstrode, the Goulstonian by Dr. Grünbaum, the Lumleian by Dr. Glynn.

Appointments of College Representatives on the Governing Bodies of Public Institutions.—Your President has been re-appointed to represent the College on the Governing Body of University College, Bristol, and Dr. Theodore Williams has been re-appointed to a similar position on the Governing Body of the University of Birmingham. Dr. F. W. Andrewes has succeeded Dr. Payne as a Member of

the Council of the Jenner Institute. Dr. F. H. Champneys has been appointed to represent the College on the Council of the Central Midwives Board.

Commemorative Ceremonies.—The University of Oxford, recognising the antiquity and position of the College, invited it to send a representative to participate in the ceremonies held to mark the tercentenary of the foundation of the Bodleian Library. Your Harveian Librarian represented the College on this auspicious occasion, and conveyed to the University an address of congratulation from the College, which was thus fitly represented in that remarkable gathering of learned men and corporations which were present on the interesting occasion.

Gifts to the College.—At the comitia on July 4th Lady Jenner, in accordance with the wishes of the late Sir William Jenner, presented the College with a large silver vase, the gift of the late Duke of Albany to Sir William Jenner “in remembrance of many kindnesses.” The thanks of the College were accorded to Lady Jenner for her kindness in carrying out the wishes of her late husband. Among the many books presented to the College Library during the year, three require special notice: (1) a large paper copy of Wilkins’s Edition of Sir Thomas Browne’s Works, the gift of Professor Osler; (2) Albinus’s *Anatomical Plates*, given by Dr. Whiphham; and (3) a folio edition, dated 1657, of the complete works of Hippocrates, presented by Dr. Montgomery. Mr. Wakley, jun., presented another proof in silver of one of Sir Wm. Browne’s medals, in addition to the ones he kindly gave the College in 1901.

Financial Position of the College.—I am able to

congratulate the College on being financially in a better position than it has been for some years. Without troubling you with details I may say that the College accounts have shown during the past year substantial credit balances, and the Treasurer has been enabled to completely pay off the loan incurred some time ago to our bankers, and has commenced replacing some of the capital which the College has from time to time had to sell.

Satisfactory as these results have been, I fear the future is not altogether without anxiety, for although there has been no falling off as yet in the number of candidates presenting themselves for the final Conjoint Examination, there has been a large and increasing diminution in the numbers for the First and Second Examinations. It is difficult to say whether this diminution is due to less men entering the profession, or to a larger number of them passing the examination in the earlier subjects at other examining boards. The improved state of our finances is therefore not so much due to an increase in the amount of our fees as to the lessening of expenses at the Examination Hall and the larger amounts received for the portions of the premises there let to other bodies. The closing of the laboratories has put a stop to a constant drain on our resources; and the letting of a portion of them, together with other rooms, to the Army Medical School has been, and will be still more, a source of increased income to the Colleges; a portion also of the laboratories not required by the Army Medical School has been taken for the use of the Cancer Research Fund.

Ashlyn's Farm.—A new lease for a term of ten years has been granted to the tenant of Ashlyn's Farm at the present rent, your tenant, Mr. L. J. Pinch, undertaking to pay interest at the rate of 3 per cent. on the outlay incurred by the College on the repairs and reconstruction of the farm buildings.

Insurance.—The Treasurer and Finance Committee at the July comitia drew the attention of the College to the inadequacy of the amount for which the contents of the College were insured, and the College decided that the sum should be increased from £7000 to £12,000. Even then it was felt that certain of our possessions were insufficiently insured, and a new policy has been taken out insuring the picture of Dr. Warren, by Gainsborough, for £2500; that of Sir Richard Quain, by Millais, for £1000; and an especial safe has been ordered for the protection from fire of certain books and MSS., more especially *The Siege of Troy*, printed by Caxton, and a valuable early MS. of Chaucer.

Union Club.—Notice has been received from the Union Club of their decision to raise the central portion of their premises; in order to retain the symmetry of the College and Club front to Trafalgar Square the balustrade at the wings has to be raised also. The College left the decision of this matter in the hands of the Finance Committee, and after consultation with our Architect, Mr. Anderson, arrangements were made by which the Union Club undertake to do the work in a manner which would not interfere with the College building or affect injuriously its appearance.

Coronation Procession.—The committee in whose hands the arrangements for providing seats to view the Coronation procession had been placed found, with much regret, that after paying the expenses incurred and returning their money to the few Members and Licentiates to whom seats had been allotted, so small a balance remained for division among the Fellows who had paid for seats that they decided that it would be more satisfactory to retain the amount of money left as a nucleus for a fund for obtaining a portrait of our Honorary Fellow, His Majesty the King; and I think that the time has come when further steps should be taken to carry out that decision.

The Cancer Research Fund.—At the comitia held on July 4th the College adopted the scheme which had been drawn up, after much consideration and many meetings, in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons for administering the Fund, which had been provided by the public for an investigation into the causes, prevention, and treatment of cancer. The scheme, besides stating the object of the Fund, viz.—

1. To provide, extend, equip, and maintain laboratories to be devoted to cancer research;
2. To encourage researches on the subject of cancer within the United Kingdom or in the British Dominions;
3. To assist in the development of cancer research in various hospitals and institutions approved by the Executive Committee of the Fund;
4. And generally to provide means for systematic investigation into the causes, prevention, and treatment of cancer;

also specifies how the Fund is to be administered and the research carried out.

The sum placed at the disposal of the Royal Colleges now amounts to £45,000, and is invested in Trustees, this College being represented by Sir Richard Douglas Powell.

The King is Patron and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales President of the Fund. The Vice-Presidents are Lord Lister, Lord Strathcona, Sir Wm. Broadbent, Sir Frederick Bramwell, Mr. H. L. Bischoffsheim, and Mr. J. Wernher. Mr. Henry Morris, Hon. Treasurer; and Mr. F. G. Hallet, Secretary.

The work of the Association is carried on under the direction of the Executive Committee, consisting of Fellows of the Royal Colleges, assisted by what is termed the Consultative Staff. In November the Executive Committee appointed Dr. Bashford, a very distinguished Graduate of the University of Edinburgh, Superintendent of the Research, and under him, with the assistance of the Consultative Staff, the work is now being carried on. A Statistical Committee has been for some time engaged on an investigation into the statistical portion of the inquiry, and arrangements have been made for studying by means of experiment the communicability of cancer in some of the lower animals.

Nomenclature of Diseases.—The last revision of the *Nomenclature of Diseases* was issued in 1896, and as experience has shown that the work of revision occupies a long time, the College officers felt that steps should be taken so that the actual work of revision should commence this year. A circular letter was therefore sent by the President in

June to the Directors-General of the Medical Departments of the Navy and Army, to the Superintendent of Statistics at the Office of General Registration, and to the Presidents of the Royal College of Surgeons in England, and of the Royal Colleges of Physicians in Scotland and Ireland, and to a selection of Fellows of the two Royal Colleges in England, inviting them to serve on a General Committee for carrying out the revision. At the July meeting of the College those who had accepted the invitation to serve were duly nominated to form a first General Committee, with power to add to their number. This Committee met at the College on November 21st, and determined to adopt a course similar to that found to work well at the last revision. Dr. Pye-Smith was appointed Chairman of the Committee, and Dr. J. A. Ormerod Secretary and Editor. A Sub-committee on Classification was also appointed, and also Sub-committees on Local Diseases. The first meeting of the Classification Sub-committee took place on January 12th, and the work of revision commenced; this has been steadily continued to the present time.

The Committee of Management and the General Medical Council.—The Committee of Management brought forward certain small changes in our regulations for the Diploma of Public Health, which were rendered necessary by an alteration in the regulations laid down for such diplomas by the General Medical Council. These changes were adopted by the College at the July comitia.

It will be within the recollection of the College that in February of last year the General Medical

Council held a special session to consider the report of a committee of that body "On the differences existing between certain Licensing Bodies and the Council." The outcome of the special session was a request that the Royal Colleges would furnish the Council with answers to a series of questions regarding the courses of studies in the preliminary sciences required by the Royal Colleges for students entering on their medical education. The General Medical Council, under Section xviii of the Medical Act, had a perfect right to make this request, and under the powers given them by the same section resolved to visit and inspect the examinations held in these subjects.

The President of the General Medical Council appointed two gentlemen, Dr. Windle, Professor of Anatomy in the University of Birmingham, a Member of the Council, and Dr. Campbell Brown, Professor of Chemistry at University College, Liverpool, to inspect and report on the examination held in July last. These gentlemen visited our examination and drew up a report, which will be brought before the General Medical Council at its next session. In accordance with the habitual practice of the Council, the Report of their Inspectors was sent to the Royal Colleges with the customary request that the bodies reported on would forward to the Council any observations or remarks thereon which they might think desirable or necessary. By the courtesy of the Council the College was enabled to send a printed copy of the Reports of the Inspectors to every Fellow with the summons for the comitia held on October 30th. At the meeting of the College

on that date the report was referred to the Committee of Management without any debate and without any instructions. It was not possible for the Committee of Management to present a report to the College in time for it to return an answer to the General Medical Council before its November session, and consequently the consideration of the Inspectors' Report had to be postponed until the approaching May session. The Report of the Inspectors is in every particular most satisfactory to the College; they state of the Biological Examination, "Of the order and organisation of this examination we cannot speak too highly; everything worked by the clock and went like clockwork." "We cannot conclude this section of our report without expressing our admiration for the manner in which the examiners carried out the difficult task of endeavouring to extract the best that could be got from a body of students well calculated to try the patience of those appointed to test their knowledge." "The standard of the examination is apparently as high as can be obtained from candidates so imperfectly trained." The Inspectors speak equally favourably of the Examination in Chemistry and Physics. "We have seen the marks, read most of the papers, witnessed the oral examinations, the practical work, the marking of the results; and we do not think that any examiners could carry out the regulations with more scrupulous care, precision, and fairness than was observed at this examination." Whilst thus giving the Royal Colleges the highest praise for the manner in which the examination was conducted, the Inspectors comment very unfavourably on the syllabuses,

some of the methods of the examination, and the standard of knowledge which it demanded. It should be remembered that the syllabuses in use by the Royal Colleges have been for some years before the General Medical Council, and have received their tacit approval, for it was open to the Council to point out any insufficiencies in them which in its opinion existed.

The remarks and observations made by the Committee of Management on the Inspectors' Report came before the College at its meeting on January 29th, and led to a prolonged discussion, which was adjourned to a special comitia on February 19th, when the remarks of the Committee of Management were not adopted by the College, and the following resolution, proposed by Dr. Starling and seconded by Sir Isambard Owen, was carried:—"While greatly appreciating the care with which the Committee of Management has examined the Report of the Visitors of the General Medical Council, and the value of its comments thereon, the College deems it inexpedient to adopt any detailed comments at the present time, and would prefer that the General Medical Council should be informed that the criticisms and suggestions of the Visitors are under the consideration of the College, and will be taken into account when the Regulations of the First Examination next come before the College for revision. The College therefore begs to refer the matter again to the Committee of Management, with power to act within the terms and limits of this resolution." It is not for me to express an opinion how far the College was right or wrong in not approving the remarks and observations of the

Committee of Management. The effect of so doing appears to me that the College withholds from the General Medical Council information which might greatly assist it in considering what steps can be taken for improving the education of students of medicine in the subjects of the first examination. The General Medical Council has no special knowledge of the subject; its Inspectors admit that in judging of the standard of knowledge which should be required they had no experience to guide them; they contrasted the examination with an ideal one they formulated for themselves, and their conclusions are not in harmony with the opinion of our examiners, who have had large experience both in teaching these subjects and in examining in them at the principal examining boards in the country. Practically it does not appear to matter, as the Council will receive the remarks of the Committee of Management, which will be communicated to it by the Royal College of Surgeons; but, as I have stated, this College has not given assistance to the Council, who will have to consider both the Report of their Inspectors and the conditions under which the examination is held.

The Committee of Management, in the report which comes before us to-day, is of opinion that it is not within its powers to act upon the resolution passed on February 19th, and it is for the College to decide how it will communicate with the General Medical Council.

One other question of great importance came before the Royal Colleges during the past year in connection with the University of London, which may possibly bring them again under the notice of the General

Medical Council. Upon the recommendation of the Committee of Management, to whom the subject had been referred, both the Royal Colleges have decided to accept the Matriculation Examination of the University as a sufficient examination in general education, qualifying those who have passed to enter on the medical curriculum. Greatly as many of us may regret that Latin should no longer be a compulsory portion of the preliminary education of medical students, it is to be remembered that Latin no longer holds the same position in a liberal education that it did formerly, when mathematics and classics were almost the only subjects taught in preliminary education.

The number of subjects now required from students of medicine is so great that unless the preliminary sciences have been studied to a certain extent before a young man enters on his medical course, the five years of which it consists does not afford the average man time to acquire an acquaintance with the sciences connected with medicine, and also a thorough knowledge of the more strictly medical subjects. In every department of medicine a higher standard of knowledge is demanded, and it is essential that the student should have attended towards the close of his student's career, *i. e.* in the fifth year, courses of instruction and demonstrations in the special departments which the advance in our knowledge of disease has now rendered necessary for the proper preparation of the student for the practice of his profession.

In conclusion, let me thank the College for the kindness and consideration with which it has treated

me during my year of office, and the Council and Censors' Board and other officers for the assistance I have always received in carrying on the work of the College; and more especially are my thanks due to the Registrar for the invaluable advice and constant help that he is ever at hand to give.

It now only remains for me before leaving the Chair to read, if the College wishes it, the brief obituary notices I have put together of those of our Fellows whom we have lost from among us during the past year.

DR. EDWARD LONG FOX.

Edward Long Fox was the eldest son of Dr. Francis Ker Fox, of Brislington, near Bristol, where he was born in 1832. He received an excellent education at Shrewsbury School, under Dr. Kennedy, and went from thence to Balliol College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1854, taking a first class in the then newly established School of Natural Science. He there formed his friendship with Sir Henry Acland, and, having chosen medicine as his profession, came to London and studied chemistry under Dr. Hoffmann, entering at the same time as a medical student at St. George's Hospital. He was one of Dr. Bence Jones's clinical clerks, and also attended the practice of the Brompton Hospital and the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond Street. Graduating in medicine at Oxford in 1857, he became a Member of our College in 1859, and took his doctor's degree in 1861. About the period when he

joined our College he started in practice at Bristol, where he was elected Physician to the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and shortly afterwards Lecturer on Medicine and Practical Pathology at the Bristol Medical School.

During this period of his life he was the author of numerous papers in the medical journals, and a contributor to Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine* and the *Dictionary of Psychological Medicine*; but his principal medical publication was a treatise on *The Pathological Anatomy of the Nervous System*, published in 1874. He became a Fellow of the College in 1870, and served on the Council in 1888. He delivered in 1882 the second Bradshaw Lecture, choosing for his subject "The Influence of the Sympathetic System on Diseases."

In Bristol Dr. Long Fox took a prominent part in both the social and medical life of the city. He filled the office of President of the Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Society and that of the Bath and Bristol branch of the British Medical Association, and in 1894, when the Association held its annual meeting in Bristol, Dr. Long Fox was naturally elected its President.

Throughout life Dr. Long Fox had ever in his mind the welfare of the public as well as his own profession; his ideal of a medical man's duty was a high one, and he spared neither time nor means in carrying out his ideal. In 1894 he undertook the post of President of the National Temperance League, a cause in which he had all his life long been interested; and he took, when in failing health, an active part as Chairman of the Committee in the for-

mation of the Gloucester, Somerset, and Wilts branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

I had not the good fortune to have more than a very slight acquaintance with him; but no one could meet him without recognising in him the cultivated, high-minded, and courtly gentleman who represented the very best type of our profession.

Dr. Long Fox was married to Miss Jane Bradley, sister of the Dean of Westminster, who, together with one son, Mr. Ernest Long Fox, assistant master at Westminster School, survives him. His death occurred at 4, Clifton Park, Clifton, on Friday, March 28th.

DR. WILLIAM MILLER ORD.

William Miller Ord was the eldest son of Mr. George Ord, F.R.C.S.Eng., who carried on an extensive practice at Streatham. He was born on September 23rd, 1834, and received his school education at King's College, where he made more than average progress in acquiring classical knowledge.

Entering at the London University and as a student at St. Thomas's Hospital, he obtained his M.B. degree in 1857, taking honours in the University, and gained many prizes in the Medical School of the Hospital. After qualifying he served the office of House Surgeon and Surgical Registrar at St. Thomas's. He resigned the latter appointment to assist his father in his practice in the suburbs, and was not elected Assistant Physician to the Hospital

until 1871, when it left its temporary quarters in the Surrey Gardens for its present buildings. During the latter portion of this time he had been connected with the Medical School, holding the post of Lecturer on Zoology.

Dr. Ord passed his Membership Examination for our College in 1869, and obtained the Fellowship in 1875. He served the College as Examiner in 1879–80, was Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Conjoint Board and Censor in 1897–98; in the latter year he filled the office of Bradshaw Lecturer, when he chose for his subject “Myxœdema and its allied conditions.” Dr. Ord also acted as the Secretary for the second edition of the *Nomenclature of Diseases*, and the value of his services to the College were recognised and acknowledged by all his colleagues.

As Dean of St. Thomas’s Hospital Medical School Dr. Ord had the satisfaction of raising it, after having suffered from its removal from St. Thomas’s Street, to the high position it has now held for many years; he filled himself the office of Lecturer on Physiology, and upon Dr. Murchison’s death became, conjointly with Dr. Bristowe, Lecturer on Medicine. He had become full Physician in 1877. As a teacher of medicine both in the lecture room and at the bedside he was remarkably successful in interesting his pupils and attracting their attention, and his reputation as a clinical teacher was inferior to none in the medical schools of the metropolis.

Amidst all these duties, and an increasing and, latterly, large private practice, Ord found time to carry on original work; his researches on the influence of colloids upon crystalline forms and cohesion,

published in 1879, although based to a certain extent on Professor Rainey's work, threw much light on the varying forms of oxalic acid and its salts in the urine.

His researches into cretinism, and myxoedema and its treatment, not only increased our knowledge of those strange conditions, but threw light upon, and may be almost said to have originated, the investigation of the internal secretion of organs. Besides the books I have mentioned Ord wrote *On Some Disorders of Nutrition related with Affections of the Nervous System*, 1885, a really valuable contribution at the time it was published; also numerous papers in *St. Thomas's Hospital Reports*; and he edited the collected works of the late Dr. Sibson.

Dr. Ord was Chairman of the Committee of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, which drew up the *Report on the Climates and Baths of Great Britain*, of which the first volume was published in 1895, the second in 1902, and took a very active part in preparing the work for the press, writing the introductory chapter, and, in connection with Dr. Garrod, the account of the "Climates and Waters of Bath and Buxton."

Besides his medical knowledge and acquirements Dr. Ord was a remarkably well-informed man; he took a lively interest in all kinds of natural history, especially botany and geology, sciences which had attracted him from his student days.

Failing health led to his retirement from London and the active practice of his profession some three years ago, when he removed to the country, settling himself in the village of Hurstbourne Tarrant, near Andover. But rest and seclusion did not bring the

benefits hoped for ; he somewhat rapidly lost strength, and died at his son's house at Salisbury on the 14th of May, and was buried there in the London Road Cemetery.

Dr. Ord was twice married, first to Julia, daughter of Joseph Rainbow, Esq., of Norwood, and secondly to Jane, daughter of Sir James Youl, K.C.M.G., of Clapham Park. His second wife survives his death, and he leaves one son, Dr. Ord, of Salisbury, and four daughters.

DR. JOHN WICHENFORD WASHBOURN.

Dr. Washbourn belonged to a very old West of England family, tracing his descent through the Washbourns of Washborne and Wichenford to the family of that name resident in Worcestershire in the fourteenth century.

He was born at Gloucester in 1863, being the son of Lieut.-Col. William Washbourn, who had married a Miss Kendall, of that city. Washbourn received his school education in Exeter at the King's College School. Entering as a preliminary science student at Guy's Hospital in 1880, he carried off all the prizes open to him ; so uninterrupted was his success that his fellow-students playfully suggested that he ought to be handicapped. He was equally successful at the London University, securing the Exhibition and Gold Medal in Chemistry at the First M.B. Examination in 1883, the University Scholarship and Medal in Medicine and the Gold Medal in Forensic Medicine at the M.B. Examination in 1886, and

honours in the B.S. Examination the same year, graduating as M.D. the following year and qualifying for the Gold Medal,—his hospital and university career thus exhibiting a strange similarity to that of his cousin, Dr. Thomas Washbourn, a most distinguished student at Guy's Hospital, who obtained, in 1850, honours at the London University in Anatomy and Physiology, and the Gold Medal in Chemistry, and in his M.B. degree gained medals in Medicine, Physiology, and Comparative Anatomy.

Having taken the Fellowship of the R.C.S. of England in 1888, he took our Membership in 1889 and became a Fellow in 1894, and acted as Examiner from 1896 to 1899. The brilliancy of his career as a student led to his very early election on the Teaching Staff of the Medical School of his Hospital; in 1888 he was appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy, and two years later was placed on the Medical Staff as Assistant Physician—promotion has of late years been rapid on the medical side of the hospital,—and in 1897 became full Physician. He had in the meantime been joint Lecturer on Physiology and Lecturer on Bacteriology. It was in connection with this last subject that Washbourn was best known to the medical public. His acquaintance with the bacteriological work of Germany, having worked first with Professor von Baumgarten, at Königsberg, and subsequently with Professor Grüber, of Vienna, placed him among the foremost of our bacteriologists, and he especially devoted himself to the study of the diplococci connected with pneumonia. He was the first to obtain an antipneumococcic serum. In this direction his work, important as it was from a

scientific point of view, has as yet borne but little practical result. Dr. Washbourn's name came prominently before the public in connection with the Maidstone epidemic of typhoid fever in 1897, when his services were enlisted to discover the possible sources of contamination of the water-supply, and it was not long before he demonstrated the presence of the *Bacterium coli* and the typhoid *bacillus* in the Tutsham-in-Field supply—a view which was at first strongly opposed, but met with general acceptance as Washbourn produced the evidence on which he relied.

In February, 1900, he accepted the post of Consulting Physician to the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital, and proceeded to South Africa; and I had the pleasure of being welcomed by him and taken round the hospital when the Royal Commission visited Deelfontein. He subsequently was appointed Consulting Physician to the Forces in South Africa, and returned to England in 1901. For his services to the country in these positions he received the honour of being made a C.M.G.

No one could be brought into contact with Washbourn without speedily recognising his great acquirements, his scientific enthusiasm, and the charm of his personal character. I first became acquainted with him when we were serving together on the Committee of the Clinical Society appointed to draw up a report on the antitoxin of diphtheria. Bringing to that Committee all the knowledge and experience he had gained when working in conjunction with Drs. Goodall and Card on the series of cases of diphtheria treated by antitoxin to be found in vol. xxviii

of the Clinical Society's *Transactions*, it is not too much to say that his advice was of the very highest value in conducting the work done by the Committee. Together with Dr. Goodall he published the well-known *Manual of Infectious Diseases*, and he was the author of numerous papers in the *Guy's Hospital Reports* and in the *Gazette*; he wrote also, in conjunction with Dr. G. Bellingham Smith, on *Infective Sarcomata in Dogs*, and with Dr. O. Richards on *Dysentery*, and was the author of numerous papers in the various medical journals.

Dr. Washbourn married in 1893 the daughter of Mr. William F. Card, of Greenwich, and had the misfortune of losing his wife a year later; his orphan daughter survives him. By Washbourn's untimely death this College and the profession has lost one who had already done much for the promotion of the study of disease on its present lines; we confidently looked to him for much more; endowed with unusual intellectual gifts, he not only was an enthusiastic and careful worker himself, but had the faculty of attracting younger men and imbuing them with some of his own zeal for scientific work, whilst at the same time he set them an example of modesty and self-effacement; he laboured for the sake of science and truth, and not with any self-seeking object.

During his service in South Africa he suffered from a slight attack of thrombosis of the veins of one leg, and never appeared after his return to enjoy his former good health. He presided over the section of Pathology and Bacteriology at the meeting of the British Medical Association in 1901, and gave an address on "The Infective Diseases prevalent in the

Army of South Africa ;” and during the course of the autumn was nearly able to complete the materials for the Croonian Lectures which he was to have delivered last year. About a year ago he suffered from an attack of influenza, followed by pleurisy, which was associated with tubercle, and left London for Tunbridge Wells, where he died, lamented by all who knew him, on June 20th.

DR. JOHN CURNOW.

John Curnow was a Cornish man, being born at Towedneck, near Penzance, in 1846 ; as a youth he was a pupil of Dr. Doige, a leading practitioner in the west of Cornwall. When about eighteen years of age he came to London and gained an entrance scholarship at King’s College in 1864, matriculating the following year at the University of London, where he had a very brilliant university career, obtaining the Gold Medal in Anatomy and the Exhibition and Gold Medal in Organic Chemistry and Materia Medica in the Intermediate Examination, and the University Scholarship and Gold Medals in Medicine and Obstetric Medicine in 1870, when he took his M.B. degree. He passed the M.D. Examination in 1871, and was again awarded the Gold Medal. He had passed the Membership Examination of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1868, and had been appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy at King’s College in 1870 under Professor Partridge—a post that he held till he succeeded Mr. Partridge in the professorial chair in 1873, in which year he joined

our College as a Member, becoming a Fellow in 1878. In 1878 he was appointed Assistant Physician at King's College Hospital, and full Physician in 1890.

Dr. Curnow held the Professorship of Anatomy at King's College for twenty-three years, resigning it in 1896, when he accepted the Chair of Clinical Medicine. It is an unusual combination at the present time for a hospital physician to hold a chair of anatomy. As a teacher of that subject Curnow was remarkable for the amount of labour he spent with his pupils in demonstration and practical work, and his constant attention to his pupils rendered him very successful. He wrote several important anatomical papers: "Variation in the Arrangement of the Extensor Muscles of the Forearm," "Muscular Irregularities," and "Notes on Irregularities in Muscular Nerves."

In 1883 he undertook the post of Dean of the Medical Faculty of King's College, and at one time took a very active part in the controversies which arose on the remodelling of the London University.

Dr. Curnow never attained in the profession or with the public the position that his brilliant early career gave promise of. His unconventional habits and a somewhat rough manner and address possibly militated against his success, even if he had any desire to acquire a large practice. He never married, and the absence of home life, with its duties, cares, and pleasures, may also have tended towards rendering him somewhat regardless of the amenities of social life.

For more than twenty-five years he was on the editorial staff of the *Lancet*, but latterly his communications to that journal became infrequent; he con-

tributed also a few articles to Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine*, and wrote also a series of very interesting articles on the history of King's College and King's College Hospital, which appeared in the *Hospital Reports*.

A Cornish man by birth and early education, he maintained to the last his love for the west country, and yearly spent his summer vacations in a visit to Penzance and its neighbourhood, when he could indulge in his favourite amusement of sea fishing.

Dr. Curnow's health began to fail in the summer of last year, subsequently to an attack of influenza. On July 4th he went round his wards complaining of pain in the chest due to the onset of pneumonia, and died suddenly from syncope on the following morning.

DR. HENRY OLDHAM.

Henry Oldham had, like Drs. Prior and Shapter, reached so advanced an age that but few of our Fellows had personal acquaintance with him. It is thirty-four years since he retired from the post of Physician-Accoucheur to Guy's Hospital, and although he continued in practice for some years it is now nearly twenty years since he withdrew from London life and settled at Boscombe, Bournemouth. Born on January 31st, 1815, at Tooting, he had almost completed his 88th year when he died on December 3rd; he was the third son of Mr. Adam Oldham, and studied medicine at Guy's Hospital. Through the kindness of Sir Samuel Wilkes and Dr. Horrocks I am enabled to give the following interesting account of

his connection with Guy's Hospital, and some of the particulars of his life. Upon the resignation of Dr. Ashwell, the Treasurer of Guy's Hospital proposed the joint appointment of Dr. Lever, who had the management of the Lying-in Charity and was a good practical obstetrician, and of Mr. Oldham, who had been working at physiology by means of coloured injections and the use of the microscope then recently purchased for the use of the School, to the Lectureship of Midwifery; Oldham had specially worked at the subject of development, and had a series of specimens of the growth of the chick and the egg. The Treasurer's proposal was carried out, and thus the course of instruction at Guy's Hospital consisted for the first time of a practical portion, and a portion devoted to the subject of development.

Dr. Oldham commenced practice in Finsbury Square, and after remaining there some years removed to Cavendish Place, where he resided until his retirement from town in 1884. He became a Fellow of our College in 1857, having previously obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine at St. Andrews. Dr. Oldham was a man of fine presence, Dr. Addison once remarking as he walked through the colonnade at Guy's, "What a handsome man Oldham is!"

The few who remember Oldham's lectures all bear witness to his excellence as a lecturer and the power of teaching that he possessed. His style was somewhat dramatic, but his matter was excellent, and his histrionic style not only served to attract the students, but also to impress his teaching on their memory. He endeavoured to pursue scientific rather than popular medicine, and for a time prided himself on

two subjects in which he thought he had shown originality : one he called "missed labour," meaning "that labour might not occur at the end of pregnancy;" the other a theory regarding the cause of menstruation. To the first theory of "missed labour" he was led by observing the case of a woman in whom most of the symptoms of pregnancy had occurred but terminated in nothing. Many years afterwards he made the *post-mortem* and found a mummified foetus in the uterus ; from this he conceived the idea that occasionally, from some unknown cause, the stimulus to expel the foetus might be wanting, and that it would remain and mummify. When this museum specimen was examined at a later date it was thought to be an interstitial pregnancy commencing near the opening of the Fallopian tube.

His second theory, that menstruation was due to the periodic excitation of the ovary, he thought he had proved by the following somewhat remarkable case. A young woman consulted him because the catamenia had never appeared. On examination he found that the uterus was altogether wanting, and that in each groin was a roundish body which he believed represented the ovaries. The *mammæ*, hair, and general configuration of the body was altogether feminine, and the patient described to him what he regarded as the menstrual molimina. He requested her to call again at one of these times, and he then described these rounded bodies in the groins as swollen and tender. These interesting observations caused him to write a description of the case, which he placed before the Royal Society in 1856, and an account appeared also in the *Lancet*. The patient

subsequently married, and died of consumption within a few years. A *post-mortem* was made by the hospital dissector, and the inguinal bodies were brought to Sir Samuel Wilkes for examination. They proved to be testicles. No account of the sequel has been published, but since Dr. Oldham's death Sir Samuel Wilkes has made the facts known.

Dr. Oldham did not leave many writings behind him, notwithstanding the leading position he held in the gynæcological world for many years. Besides the above case reported to the Royal Society, he contributed a few papers to the *Transactions of the Obstetrical Society*, of which he was one of the original Trustees and Vice-President, and subsequently Treasurer and President.

Dr. Oldham married in 1838, and left at his death two daughters, both married, and one son, Col. Sir Henry Oldham, Lieutenant of the Hon. Corps of Gentlemen of Arms. Dr. Oldham up to the end of his life was of active habits, a great walker, and remarkably abstemious. For the last fifteen years of his life he took no meat or fish, his diet consisting of an egg, milk puddings, bread and butter, with tea, coffee, or cocoa. One cigar after breakfast he allowed himself almost to the last.

The very large fortune he left of upwards of a quarter of a million was the result of judicious investments rather than of professional gains.

DR. THOMAS SHAPTER.

Thomas Shapter was born at Gibraltar in 1809,

being the son of Thomas Shapter, of the 57th Regiment of Foot. I have been unable to ascertain where he obtained his early education, but he studied medicine at Edinburgh, where he obtained his doctor's degree in 1831, and was made an Honorary LL.D. of that University in 1875. He practised in Exeter, and was appointed Physician to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, and obtained the Fellowship of our College in 1859. He married Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Blackall and niece of Dr. John Blackall, whose portrait we have in the College. Dr. Blackall, at the time of Dr. Shapter's marriage, had a very large consulting practice in Exeter and the West of England. Dr. Shapter himself was almost equally successful in practice, and was as well known in the surrounding counties as in the city of Exeter. During the outbreak of the cholera in 1832 he rendered most valuable assistance in fighting the disease, and then and afterwards took much interest in the sanitary condition of the city. For his services during the epidemic he was presented by the Governors of the Devon and Exeter Hospital and the Guardians of the city with an address in testimony of the "promptitude, skill, and eminent ability" he had shown, and as a mark of the "high respect and esteem" felt for him by the Governors of the Hospital and the citizens. In 1847 he filled the office of Mayor, and in that position he was able to do much in furthering the sanitary reforms he had advocated.

Dr. Shapter was the author of various works. He wrote *The History of the Cholera at Exeter*, and also a paper on "The Occurrence of Scurvy at Exeter;"

Medica Sacra, a work dealing with the diseases mentioned in the Scriptures; *The Climate of Exeter and Devon*, a book which had an extensive circulation; *Diseases of the Heart*, published in 1874; and "A Retrospective Address on Medicine," which was published in vol. xii of *The Provincial Medical Transactions*. On his retirement from active medical practice he was succeeded by his son, Dr. Louis Shapter, who predeceased him in 1890. For some years before his death he had resided in London, and died on November 29th and was buried in the Shapter vault at Highgate Cemetery.

DR. RICHARD CHANDLER ALEXANDER PRIOR.

Dr. Prior, who died on December 5th, at York Terrace, Regent's Park, in the 94th year of his age, was for many years the senior Fellow of the College, although he was not the oldest in age of our Fellows. He was the son of Richard Haward Alexander, a medical practitioner at Corsham, Wiltshire, and his family had been for many generations landowners and professional men in the county. His mother was a Miss Prior, daughter of George Prior, Esq., a wealthy Turkey merchant of Sydenham, and Halse, Somerset. At the early age of six he was sent to a school at Marlborough kept by the Rev. J. T. Lawes, and at thirteen to the Charterhouse, whence he proceeded to Wadham College, Oxford, when seventeen years old.

Dr. Alexander graduated in arts in 1830, and came up to London the same year and began his studies

at Mayo's School of Anatomy, in Great Windmill Street, and attended Faraday's Lectures. The following year he entered as a medical student at St. George's Hospital, and had an attack of typhus fever in the winter, and found his health so bad that in the following year he went abroad, spending the spring and summer in Belgium and at Weimar, and the autumn and winter in medical study at Berlin. Returning to England in 1837, he resumed his attendance on the practice of St. George's Hospital, where he attended Dr. Dickson's Lectures on Botany, to which Dr. Alexander used to refer as being the source of his greatest happiness in his subsequent life. He passed the Medical Session of 1834 in Edinburgh, and took his M.B. degree at Oxford in 1835, settling in Bath the following year. At Bath he suffered so much in health from sore throat and constant indisposition that he left just before an outbreak of malignant fever in the street in which he had lived, and upon leaving Bath he settled at Chippenham in 1838, becoming a Fellow of our College in 1840.

In the spring of 1841 he left Chippenham, abandoning the practice of his profession for ever, and devoting himself almost entirely to the study of botany and the collection of specimens. He passed three years in Gratz, making a very complete collection of the plants of Styria, and from thence proceeded to Dalmatia, not returning to England till 1844, and in the autumn of that year went to Italy and made the acquaintance of the leading botanists of that country, Gussone and Tineo.

When returning the following year he was laid up

at Chambery with dysentery. After a short stay in England he started for the Cape of Good Hope, and spent two years in Cape Colony, during which time he made an ox-waggon journey over the Karroo, which appears to have made a great impression on his mind, for he states in some autobiographical notes left behind him that for several years he was in "the singular habit of connecting all noises that he heard in his sleep with the cries of the animals of that desert." Dr. Alexander next visited the United States (1849), Jamaica, and Canada, returning home in 1850 and taking a house at Hammersmith, in which he remained for eight years, during which time he made occasional trips to Germany, France, Italy, Denmark, and Norway.

At this period of his life, and subsequently, Dr. Alexander devoted himself more to literature than botany, finding that after a rambling life in quest of plants it was irksome to work them up from cabinet specimens.

5/ In 1849 his maternal uncle died, leaving to Dr. Alexander his landed property at Halse, in Somersetshire, with the request that he would assume the name of Prior.

From this time Dr. Prior led a life of cultured leisure for upwards of forty years, spending the summer months at his country seat of Halse, Bishop's Lydeard, near Taunton, and devoting himself to antiquarian research and croquet. The six winter months he was in the habit of passing in York Terrace, Regent's Park, occupying himself in literary work. His principal writings are *Ancient Danish Ballads*, published in 1860 in three volumes, and

Popular Names of British Plants, published in 1863, and a second edition in 1871. In addition to these he published various other works of a more or less ephemeral character, the best known being a book on croquet, to which amusement he was much addicted. On the day of his birth, March 6th, 1809, Dr. William Sainsbury drew his horoscope ; it has been preserved, and is, I should imagine, one of the last to be drawn by a physician for educated persons.

Dr. Prior was never married, and throughout his life was of abstemious habits ; he did not smoke, and seldom drank wine or spirits. His mother's family were remarkable for longevity. George Prior, her father, lived to ninety-three, Mrs. Alexander to ninety-six, Dr. Prior's sister to eighty-six, and very many of the family, who are buried in West Somerset, seem to have attained great ages. One of the first events of his life that he was able to remember was the rejoicings that took place at Corsham when Napoleon was sent to Elba.

It is over sixty years since Dr. Prior, to use his own words, abandoned medicine for ever, so that he was scarcely one of us, and was almost unknown to the College, but his scholarly tastes and cultured leisure made him a very fit representative of that portion of the profession which is not engaged in active medical practice.

DR. SAMUEL FENWICK.

Samuel Fenwick was born at Earsden House, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, in the year 1821. His family was

a branch of the very old Northumberland family of the Fenwicks, who have taken for many centuries an important part in the history of that county. His father having had the misfortune to suffer heavy losses, it became necessary for his children at an early age to be put in the way of gaining their livelihoods, and at fourteen years of age Samuel Fenwick was apprenticed to the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle, and as soon as he had attained the necessary age passed the Membership Examination of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. He commenced practice at North Shields, and in 1846 took the M.D. degree of the University of St. Andrews, and soon after published *The Nature and Prevention of Disease*, and *Certain Affections of the Throat of a Chronic Character*; these attracted some attention, and doubtless assisted him in obtaining the post of Lecturer of Pathology at the Durham School of Medicine. As his practice increased he opened consulting rooms in Newcastle, and rapidly became well known both to the public and to the profession as a thoroughly good physician.

In 1889 the University of Durham conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Medicine “*Honoris Causâ*,” in recognition of the value his services had been to the Medical School of the University.

Circumstances arose in 1862 which led to his wishing to leave Newcastle, and he passed the Membership of our College and commenced practice in Harley Street, and shortly afterwards was appointed Assistant Physician to the Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, and a little later to the London Hospital, to which he remained attached for

the rest of his life, becoming full Physician in 1879 and Consulting Physician in 1896. In the School of the London Hospital he filled successively the posts of Lecturer on Physiology and Medicine, and his value as a clinical teacher was greatly appreciated. Himself a sufferer during his long life from indigestion, he turned his attention especially to the physiology of the stomach and its disorders, and came to be looked upon as a specialist; but as a hospital physician his demonstrations of disease and clinical teaching were equally valuable in the whole range of medicine. His *Student's Guide to Medical Diagnosis* had an almost unprecedented success, and has been translated into many languages. His other writings are almost entirely confined to morbid conditions of the stomach and the digestive organs; in conjunction with his son, Dr. William Soltan Fenwick, he published in the year of his death a valuable and elaborate volume on *Cancer and other Tumours of the Stomach*. Dr. Fenwick became a Fellow of our College in 1870; he was a Fellow of the Pathological and of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Societies, and to the *Transactions* of the last-named he contributed three papers.

The cause of his death was an atheromatous degeneration of the aortic valves leading to cardiac failure; he died at his house in Harley Street on December 11th, at the ripe age of eighty-two.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS,

MARCH 28TH, 1904,

BY

SIR W. S. CHURCH, BART., K.C.B., M.D.,

PRESIDENT.

London

ADLARD AND SON

BARTHOLOMEW CLOSE

1904

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS,

1904.

THE year that has passed since the last Presidential election has not been remarkable, like the one preceding it, for any public events in which the College has taken part, but during it, as I shall have to remind you, the College has been frequently consulted both by the Government and other public bodies on questions of very considerable importance, showing that the value of its opinion is duly recognised by the Government of the country and by the various departments of the public service.

Condition of the College.—At the commencement of the year the number of Fellows on the College list was 323; of Members, 458; and of Licentiates, 9626; of the old order of *extra urbem* Licentiates, 5 still remain. The losses by death since the last annual election have been 8 Fellows, to whom I will allude again later, 13 Members, and as far as is known 55 Licentiates. Two Members have resigned. Sixteen Members (an unusually large number) were last year elected to the Fellowship, and among the 26 Members admitted last year 16 were Licentiates of our College.

Royal Honours and Distinctions.—H.M. the King was pleased to confer on our Fellows, Dr. Stephen

Mackenzie, Senior Physician to the London Hospital, Dr. Edwin Cooper Perry, Physician to Guy's Hospital, and a Member of the Advisory Board for the Army Medical Service, the honour of Knighthood; on Alfred Downing Fripp, F.R.C.S., a Licentiate of this College, Assistant Surgeon to Guy's Hospital and Member of the Advisory Board for the Army Medical Service, Commander of the Victorian Order, the honour of Knighthood; and upon Dr. Patrick Manson, F.R.S., a Fellow of our College, and Medical Advisor to the Colonial Office, the honour of being made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Award of Medals and Scholarships.—At the meeting of the College on July 30th John Newport Langley, D.Sc., F.R.S., Professor of Physiology at Cambridge, was awarded the Baly Medal as being pre eminently distinguished in the science of Physiology, and at the same College the Moxon Medal was awarded to Dr. John Hughlings Jackson, F.R.S. The Weber-Parker Prize and Medal were gained by Dr. Hugh Walsham as the author of the best essay on "The Channels of Infection in Tuberculosis, together with the Conditions, Original or Acquired, which render the Different Tissues Vulnerable." A second medal was at the same time awarded to Walter Jobson Horne, a Member of our College, as the author of the essay next in order of merit.

All the medallists were present to receive their medals at the Harveian Commemoration on October 19th.

The Swiney Prize.—Every five years the Swiney Prize is awarded jointly by the Society of Arts and the College for the best work on Jurisprudence published since the last award. The prize is awarded alternately for a work on general or on medical jurisprudence; this

year was the turn for general jurisprudence, and the Prize was divided between Sir Fred. Pollock, LL.D., D.C.L., and Professor Frederick William Maitland, D.C.L., for their work on "The History of English Law before the time of Edward the First."

The Charles Murchison Scholarship, the examination for which was held by the Edinburgh University last year, was adjudged to Charles John Shaw, M.B., and the *Jenks Memorial Scholarship* to Alfred Richardson, who is now a student at the Yorkshire College, Leeds.

Harveian Oration and Foundation Lectures.—Dr. Allchin delivered the Harveian oration on Monday, October 19th, on "Structure and Function." In treating of this subject he showed that the problem of the chemical and electrical constitution of muscle, of nerve-fibre and of the gland-cell still awaits solution.

Dr. J. F. Payne, as the first FitzPatrick Lecturer, delivered in June two lectures on "English Medicine in the Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Norman Periods." These, the first lectures on the history of medicine delivered in the College, aroused much interest and were well attended.

Dr. Trevelyan, Professor of Pathology in the Yorkshire College, Leeds, chose for the subject of the Bradshaw Lecture delivered in November "Some Observations on Tuberculosis of the Nervous System."

The Milroy Lectures were given by Dr. William Williams, M.B.Camb., Medical Officer of Health for Glamorganshire, on "Deaths in Childbed a Preventable Mortality."

Dr. Robert Hutchison, as Gulstonian Lecturer, brought before the College "Some Disorders of the Blood and Blood-forming Organs in Early Life," and delivered a most able and interesting series of lectures.

The College has so lately heard the Lumleian Lectures by Dr. Frederick Taylor on "Some Disorders of the Spleen" that I need not remind it of the value and interest of them.

On December 3rd, by permission of the President, Sir Hermann Weber delivered a lecture in the College on "Means for the Prolongation of Life." As might be expected from the subject matter of his lecture, and from the demonstration he affords of the success of his methods, a very large number of Fellows and others availed themselves of the opportunity of hearing his interesting discourse.

Endowments.—During the past year the College has been fortunate in receiving two valuable endowments. In November last Dr. Horace Dobell, a Member of the College, offered to give £500 in Consols to the College to endow a Lectureship for a term of years, with a view to encourage research into the "ultimate origin, evolution and life history of bacilli and other pathogenic micro-organisms"; the lecture to be called the "Horace Dobell Research Lecture," and to be delivered once in every two years, the lecturer receiving £50 for his lecture until the capital sum and accruing interest is exhausted. The College accepted the trust, and the Censors' Board has appointed Dr. Klein to give the first lecture on November 22nd of this year.

A still more valuable endowment has been received from Dr. George Oliver, a Fellow of the College, formerly of Harrogate, who offered a sum of £2000 to the College in trust for the endowment of a Lectureship or Prize to be called the "Oliver-Sharpey Lectureship or Prize," in memory of the late William Sharpey, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Physiology in University College, for the purpose of encouraging thereby the application of physiological knowledge to the preven-

tion and treatment of disease and the prolongation of life, more especially by experimental researches and observations on man.

I am sure that I am but expressing the feeling of the whole College in returning my most sincere thanks to these generous donors who, by their munificence, are encouraging the progress of medicine in the true Harveian spirit, and are enabling the College as a corporate body to play a part in furthering the development of scientific medicine, without forgetting the main object of our work, the treatment of disease for the alleviation of suffering and the prolongation of life.

Gifts to the College.—Many gifts of considerable value have been made to the College in the shape of books, etc.; the only one I need mention more particularly is a small medallion portrait in relief of Dr. Lettsom, dated 1809, the gift of Mr. Cornelius Hanbury.

The Financial Condition of the College.—I am glad to be able to congratulate the College on the improvement which has taken place in our finances during the last three years, in each of which there has been a credit balance to the College; the Treasurer, who devotes so much time and pains to the College affairs, has had the satisfaction of recommending the College to invest £2000 during the last two years, and we have thus begun to replace some of our capital which had to be sold when the Examination Hall was built.

The improved condition of our finances depends partly on the increase in our fees for the licence of the College, but chiefly on the reduction of our expenses at the Examination Hall, and the large increase in the receipts from letting our spare rooms there. The receipts from our Examinations I regret to say show

a decided decrease for all three professional examinations,* amounting in the whole to £1591 16s. 0d. The decrease in the number of students qualifying through the examinations of the Conjoint Board cannot but be viewed with apprehension, especially when considered together with the diminishing number of entries at the Metropolitan Medical Schools. The increase this year in the receipts at the Examination Hall, due mainly to the energy and resourcefulness of Mr. Hallett, cannot, I fear, be expected to be maintained; one important item of £551 was due to the meeting of the International Telegraph Congress held last year, which must be regarded as of an exceptional character not likely to recur yearly, and we must also remember that the rooms now used by the Army Medical Department will before very long be again vacant.

Committee of Management.—Our College has throughout the year continued to work in perfect harmony with the Royal College of Surgeons, and the College is very greatly indebted to its Fellows on the Committee of Management for the laborious work they so successfully perform. On one important point—the observations to be returned to the General Medical Council upon their Report on our First Professional Examination—the College did not act in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons. Whilst that College adopted the Report of the Committee of Management, ours referred it back to the Committee, with power to act within “the terms and limits” of the reference. The Committee found that although they could consider and report to both Colleges on a reference from either, they could not take action on the authority of either College

* Seventy-four fewer candidates presented themselves for the first and second examinations and eighty-four less for the final as compared with the year 1902.

separately. They reported accordingly, and each College sent a separate reply to the General Medical Council. The College answer was as follows :—

“The College deems it inexpedient to adopt any detailed comments on the *Report* at the present time, but wishes the COUNCIL to be informed that the criticisms and suggestions of its Visitor and Inspector are under consideration, and will be taken into account when the Regulations of the First Examination next come before the College for revision.”

Dr. Starling at the Comitia on April 30 moved that a joint committee of the two Colleges be appointed, “to consider and report upon any alterations that may be desirable in ‘the regulations for the first conjoint examination.’” The College agreed to the motion and appointed Drs. F. Roberts, Norman Moore, West, Pasteur, Lauriston Shaw, Rolleston, and Starling as members of the Committee; Messrs. Pick, Langton, Owen, Godlee, Page, Gould, and Sir Henry Howse being nominated by the Royal College of Surgeons. The joint Committee presented their report to the College on July 30:

In considering the study to be required of Candidates in the first year of the Curriculum and the examination to be passed on the completion of that study, the Committee have had in view three main objects: first, to secure that whatever subjects are studied shall be treated as an introduction to the purely professional subjects; secondly, to prevent the overloading of the first year of study, whilst securing that the student shall have sufficient work to occupy his time; thirdly, to endeavour to so adjust the Curriculum as to attain the original object of the fifth year of study, *i.e.* the extension of the time devoted to clinical work.

The Committee are agreed that as a general principle it is desirable to encourage students to pass the First Examination before commencing the study of Anatomy and Physiology, and with this object in view they would advocate the recognition of the study of Preliminary Science before as well as after passing the preliminary examination in general education.

The Committee see no reason why a student should not study Chemistry, Physics, and Biology whilst at school, and they consider that no obstacle should be put in the way of his passing the First Professional Examination as soon as possible after passing the Preliminary Examination, provided that a certain minimum number of hours' work has been completed (in Chemistry 180, in Physics 120, and in Biology 120). In this way it would be possible to require that the study of Anatomy and Physiology should be commenced only after the First Professional Examination is completed.

The Committee therefore recommend :

1. That Part I. Chemistry, Part II. Physics, Part III. Biology, and, at the option of the Candidate, Part IV. Practical Pharmacy, be the subjects of the First Examination.

2. That a minimum length of courses be required in Chemistry, Physics, and Biology, before Candidates are admitted to Examination in these subjects.

3. That the minimum course in the several subjects be :

In Chemistry 180 hours' Instruction and Laboratory work.

In Physics 120 ,, ,, ,,

In Biology 120 ,, ,, ,,

4. That these courses need not run concurrently, nor be completed within one year.

5. That these courses may be commenced or attended before the required preliminary examination in general education is passed.

6. That study at an Institution other than a recognised Medical School be counted for not more than six months of the Curriculum.

7. That the study of Anatomy and Physiology be not recognised until after the First Examination in Chemistry, Physics, and Biology has been passed.

8. That no student be admitted to examination in Medicine and Surgery until he has completed five years of professional study after passing the Preliminary Examination in general education, towards which six months' study at a recognised Institution may be counted, if taken subsequently to passing such preliminary examination.

In the event of the foregoing recommendations being approved, the Committee suggest that they should be authorised to ascertain the opinion of the Teachers in the Medical Schools and of the present and past Examiners, on the alterations necessary in the synopses of Chemistry, Physics, and Biology, and in the mode of conducting the

Examination, and to present a further report to the Royal Colleges on these questions.

The Committee are of opinion that the difficulty of the First Examination should not be materially increased, but that the form of Examination should be altered so as to encourage a more thorough and practical course of instruction.

JOHN LANGTON, *Chairman*.

22nd July, 1903.

The College adopted the Report, which was of a provisional nature, and the Committee was requested to obtain the opinion of the Teachers in the Medical Schools on the synopses of the subjects of the First Examination proposed and the methods of conducting the examinations, and report further to the College; the subject still remains under consideration.

Further reference must be made to the various communications which have passed between the College and the General Medical Council, which body took the unusual course of holding a Special Session in July to consider what course it should adopt with regard to the examinations and the courses of instruction in Chemistry, Physics, and Biology imposed by the Conjoint Board of the Royal Colleges on their students.

At the Ordinary Session of the General Medical Council in May last and at a Special Session held in July, the Reports of the Education Committee on the returns from the Teaching Institutions in Elementary Science recognised by the Royal College, but not by the Council, and of the Examination Committee on the Inspector and Visitor's Report on the First Examination of the Royal Colleges, were considered, and it was resolved (1) that the Examination in Chemistry, Physics and Biology was insufficient. (2) That the courses of study in many of the schools and institutions, recognised by the Royal Colleges but not by the

Council, were insufficient. The Resolutions passed by the General Medical Council in July were to the following effect :

1. To send copies of the Education and Examination Committees' Reports and the resolutions, 1 and 2, mentioned above to the Royal Colleges.

2. The President to draw the attention of the Royal Colleges to the unsatisfactory state of the studies and examinations required by them in these subjects of candidates for their diplomas, as disclosed by the Reports, and to urge them to take immediate steps for amending their regulations.

3. The President to appoint a committee consisting of two members from each Branch Council to confer with representatives of the Colleges on these matters if a conference is desired.

These Resolutions of the General Medical Council came before the College at its meeting on October 29th, and it was decided to appoint eight delegates to meet a like number appointed by the Royal College of Surgeons to advise the Colleges as to the answer to be sent. The following were the delegates from the Royal College of Physicians :—The President, the Senior Censor, the Registrar, the Representative on the General Medical Council, Sir R. Douglas Powell, Drs. Frederick Taylor, Sharkey, and Starling. From the Royal College of Surgeons :—The President, Mr. Morris, Sir Henry Howse, Messrs. Mayo Robson, Butlin, Owen, Godlee and Gould. The Joint Committee met on November 6th and agreed to recommend the College to send the following reply to the Medical Council :

“The Royal Colleges thank the General Medical Council for the expression of their opinion respecting the courses of study and the examinations in Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. These opinions shall receive the respectful attention of the Royal Colleges.”

“The Royal Colleges, however, regret that they are unable to accept the invitation of the President of the General

Medical Council to appoint representatives to meet the representatives of the General Medical Council in regard to the questions of Medical Education and Examination relating to the subjects above mentioned that have been raised in the Reports of the Education and Examination Committees of the General Medical Council."

The College adopted the above at the Special Meeting held on November 19th.

Thus the outcome of the deliberations of the General Medical Council on our First Examination was that it was insufficient, and that the courses of study in the schools and institutions recognised by the Royal Colleges, but not by the Council, were also insufficient, and it was moved by Sir Victor Horsley, seconded by Dr Mackay :

"That the Council do represent to His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council that the Courses of Study and Examination in Chemistry, Physics and Biology, to be gone through in order to obtain qualifications for Registration from the Examining Board in England of the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Surgeons of England, are not such as to secure the possession by persons obtaining such qualifications of the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of their profession."

Amendment moved by Dr. Bruce, seconded by Dr. Pye-Smith :

"(1) That the Council acknowledges the communications set out in the minutes of to-day from the Royal College of Physicians of London, of the 19th November, and the Royal College of Surgeons of England, of the 20th November ;

"(2) That the Council is pleased to note that the opinions of the Council respecting courses of study and examination in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology are to receive the respectful attention of the two Royal Colleges ;

"(3) That in view of the re-consideration of the courses of study and examination by the Royal Colleges, the Council resolves to defer taking any further action until the Examination has been again inspected under new regulations."

The amendment was put and carried.

When the amendment was put as a substantive motion, a further amendment was moved :

“That the consideration of the motion be postponed.”

This was carried, and there the matter at present rests.

The Final Examination of the Conjoint Board was visited by the Inspector, the late Sir George Duffey, and the Visitor, Sir Charles Ball, of the General Medical Council, in January, last year. The report they made to the council was a very favourable one, although the usual remarks on operative surgery, clinical, ophthalmic, and aural surgery were introduced into it, and some objections to the system of marking.

The Laboratories Committee.—At the Comitia in April last, it was reported that the work at the Laboratories at the Examination Hall had ceased, with the exception of that carried on in connection with the preparation of antitoxic serum for the Metropolitan Asylums Board. At the January Comitia this year the following report was presented by the Laboratories Committee, raising the important question of the Royal Colleges continuing to undertake the supply of Anti-toxin. The old agreement with the Asylums Board has nearly expired, and the Colleges were asked by the Committee to consider what their future action should be.

REPORT, DATED THE 8TH JANUARY, 1904, OF THE
LABORATORIES COMMITTEE.

Members of the Committee.—Dr. P. H. Pye-Smith, *Chairman*, Dr. W. D. Halliburton, Dr. Sidney Martin, Mr. H. T. Butlin, Mr. Watson Cheyne, Mr. R. J. Godlee.

So long a time has elapsed since these Laboratories were built and occupied, and so many changes have taken place, that it seems right for us to ask the two Royal Colleges to consider their present conditions.

For several years after the appointment of Dr. Woodhead,

the Laboratories were always full, and excellent work was being accomplished. The necessity for retrenching expenses led at last to the discontinuance of original pathological investigations, and this at once did away with a large and most interesting part of your Committee's duties. The preparation of antitoxic serum for the Metropolitan Asylums Board had some time previously been established and is still carried on, with undoubted public benefit. Part of the laboratory building has been for three years or longer made over to the War Office, so that there is at present little probability of any new department being opened unless other researches approved by the Royal Colleges were to take the place of the preparation of Antitoxin. We shall soon arrive at the period when the Royal Colleges can, if they think proper, give notice to determine the present arrangement with the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

There is little doubt that the work might be accomplished by other institutions if the Royal Colleges should see fit, after due notice, to give it up.

Your Committee have been long convinced that to ensure a sufficiently large and constant supply of the purest and strongest antitoxic serum for cases of diphtheria alone, it would be necessary to increase our present stud of horses, and no less necessary to build suitable stables and laboratories on a large scale and out of London. This, however, would, if proper inspection were to be carried out, involve considerable difficulties, apart from the unavoidably increased expenditure.

On the other hand, we must remind the Colleges that, although no profit is made by the preparation of antitoxin, it is kept up without loss to the Colleges, and thus the payment of rates and taxes, heating, &c., is considerably lightened.

We now ask the Colleges to consider, first, the urgent need for moving the stables from Balham to some suitable place out of town, and secondly, the question of continuing the existing arrangement with the Metropolitan Asylums Board after the present term has expired.

P. H. PYE-SMITH, *Chairman.*

8th January, 1904.

I was requested by the College to confer with the President of the Royal College of Surgeons with the view of appointing a special Committee to further consider the subject. The special Committee consisted of

the representatives of the Colleges on the Laboratories Committee, together with three other Fellows from each College. Sir Dyce Duckworth, Dr. Whipham, and myself were added to our representatives. Mr. Tweedy the President, Mr. Morris, and Sir Henry Howse were the additional members for the Royal College of Surgeons. The Special Committee met on February 26th, and its report, which comes before you to-day, is as follows :

“That, in the opinion of this Committee, it is not expedient to renew the agreement with the Metropolitan Asylums Board for the preparation and supply of Antitoxic Serum.”

In the event of this Report being approved by the Royal Colleges, the Committee also recommend that it be referred to the Laboratories Committee to inform the Metropolitan Asylums Board of the decision of the Royal Colleges to discontinue the preparation and supply of Antitoxin, and to make arrangements for the termination of the services of the staff.

Communications with Public Bodies.—Last April a letter was received from the London County Council, requesting the College to nominate pathologists competent to make *post-mortem* investigations and give evidence before the coroners. The College referred the matter to the Censors' Board, who reported to the College that :

Without alterations in the Coroners' Acts the College was not in a position to suggest the names of specially skilled pathologists to the L.C.C. whose services might be called for when in the opinion of the Coroner it was desirable. They thought such a provision very necessary but not practicable in the existing state of the law, and recommended that an amendment of the Acts should be sought.

The University of Liverpool.—The Charter of the New University of Liverpool provides that one member of the Court—the supreme governing body of the University—shall be appointed by the Royal College of Physicians of London. At the Comitia on May 14th, our Treasurer, Sir Dyce Duckworth, who is connected

with Liverpool both by birth and education, was appointed, and in October last he gave an address upon the opening of the Medical Session.

A communication received from the *Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers*, asking the opinion of the College on the desirability of making sight-testing a subject of the Examination which the Company holds before granting its Diploma to opticians, was referred to the Censors' Board, who advised that in the public interest it is undesirable to extend the diploma so as to embrace a certificate in sight-testing.

In October last a communication was received from the *Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health*, praying the College to join them in a memorial they were presenting to the Home Secretary, deprecating the low standard of ventilation proposed to be required in certain workshops and factories. The College did not see its way to accede to this request. A request from *Sir Edward Poynter*, Chairman of the Art Committee for selecting Works for Exhibition at the St. Louis Exhibition, for the loan of Sir J. Millais' portrait of Sir Richard Quain, was not acceded to by the College.

College Buildings, etc.—In the course of last year a balustrade addition to the College front towards Trafalgar Square was erected at the expense of the Union Club, who wished to raise their portion of the frontage. The work has been satisfactorily done without interfering with our premises, and has, I think, improved rather than injured the architectural features of the College.

A room formerly used as a chemical laboratory in the basement of the College has been cleared out and fitted with bookshelves and presses, giving additional accommodation for our Library, which was much needed.

It will be in the recollection of the College that,

taking advantage of our Registrar's absence from illness at one of our meetings last year, it was decided that it was necessary he should have some assistance in his very onerous duties. Dr. Oswald Browne has been appointed to assist him in the very heavy secretarial and other work which now falls upon our Registrar.

Communications with Departments of the State.—During the past year the College has been consulted by the Government on several very important questions, and their consideration has entailed the expenditure of much time and thought on those of our Fellows who at the request of the College served on the Committees which considered and reported on the subjects submitted to the College.

The Secretary of State for War requested the advice of the College on the value of Dr. A. Wright's antityphoid inoculation :—(1) its practical safety; (2) its prophylactic value. The Committee, consisting of Drs. Gee, Tooth, Bradford, Simpson, and Caiger, had the advantage of examining Professor Wright himself, and presented a report in the following terms, which was adopted by the College at the July Comitia :

After careful scrutiny of the statistics from both official and private sources which have been made available, we are of opinion that not only is a lessened susceptibility to the disease brought about as a result of the inoculations, but that the case-mortality is largely reduced.

We are further of opinion that with due care the process of inoculation is devoid of direct danger, but that under special circumstances there may possibly be some temporary increase of susceptibility to infection immediately following inoculation ; and it is, therefore, desirable that the preparation of the vaccine and the inoculations should be carried out under specially skilled supervision.

SAMUEL GEE, *Chairman.*

July 27th, 1903.

At the same Comitia the College adopted a report as follows, drawn up by a committee consisting of the

President, Drs. Vivian Poore, Longstaff, Pringle, Newsholme, and Tatham, "on the Physical Disability of Recruits," a memorandum on the subject by Sir W. Taylor, Director-General of the Army Medical Service, having been sent to the College by the Home Secretary with the request that the College should take it into consideration and communicate to him any remarks they might wish to offer on the Director-General's memorandum.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY OF ARMY RECRUITS.

In the original Memorandum, signed by Sir William Taylor, Director-General of the Army Medical Department, sent to the College under cover of a letter from the Home Office, dated June 11th, 1903, the College was asked to express an opinion as to the necessity for an enquiry into the causes of the Physical Disability of so large a proportion of men offering themselves as recruits, and as to the available methods of remedying defects and improving the national health.

The general tenour of the Report appeared to favour the opinion that an increasing deterioration in physique is taking place in the classes of the population from whom military recruits are chiefly drawn. An examination, however, of the figures given in the tables in the Memorandum itself does not support this view, as we find that the rejections of those offering themselves as recruits have fallen from 42 per cent. in 1891, to 34 per cent. in 1902. If we consider the causes of rejection, the table on page 4 of the Memorandum shows that chest measurements, weight, and height have all improved in recent years; whilst at the same time the rejections from other causes—with the exception of decayed teeth—have all decreased in number. Application was therefore made by the College to the Home Office for further information which might explain the apparent contradiction between the general tone of the Report and the figures given. Information was especially asked for on such points as alterations in standard, if any, and more detailed statements as to the occupations of the heterogeneous class No. 1 ("labourers, servants, husbandmen, &c.") from whom nearly two-thirds of the number inspected were drawn, and who therefore furnish by far the largest number of rejections.

In reply to this application we were informed through Mr. Cunynhame, C.B., that the College was not asked to enter into an investigation of any alleged deterioration. What was wanted of the College, at this stage, was the expression of an opinion whether from their point of view, an inquiry was necessary or not; and that they should confine themselves to answering the questions *a*, *b*, and *c* at the end of the Director-General's Report—

(*a*) The necessity of such an inquiry.

(*b*) The ground to be covered by a Commission if appointed.

(*c*) Composition of Commission.

The College is therefore placed in a position of expressing an opinion as to the necessity of an inquiry without any adequate data upon which an opinion can be founded.

Your Committee hold that it is extremely improbable that any general deterioration of the physique of the population is taking place, when they consider (without laying undue stress on the greatly lowered death-rate) how much the food, clothing, and housing of the people have improved, together with the diminution of general pauperism. Class 1 (No. 1 of the Director-General's statement) must include the *residuum* of the labour market; and, whilst your Committee duly recognise the effect which the increase of urban as compared with rural population may have on the population at large, it must be remembered that there has been a marked increase in the wage of agricultural labourers (a diminishing class) of late years, and that the attractions offered to this class by the Army in the shape of pay are proportionately much less than formerly, and consequently a larger proportion of men offering themselves for recruits may be expected to belong to the class of casual labourers in our large towns.

The Committee desire to draw attention to the fact that a greater change has taken place in the conditions of life in this country during the last fifty years than in any similar period of our history. Could an inquiry be made into the present physical condition of the nation, it is self-evident that it would be of great value, but one dealing with a portion only would be likely to lead to error.

The Committee would, therefore, suggest to the College that its answer to the Home Secretary's letter be as follows:—

Draft of Reply to the Home Office.

The College has carefully considered the statement of the Director-General of the Army Medical Service, forwarded

through the Home Office, and would point out that the information furnished by it is not of such a character as to enable the College to express a decided opinion upon the question of whether there is, or is not, a necessity for an inquiry into the causes of the physical deficiency of those offering themselves as recruits for the army.

The College is in possession of no means for comparing the condition of the population from whom recruits are drawn at the present time with that which obtained in former years. The figures given in the Director-General's statement show that there has been no increase in the proportion of rejections, and although the numbers of those discharged from the Service in 1901—1902 are proportionately larger than those in former years, no details are given as to the circumstances under which the increase has taken place; and, indeed, the figures may not be strictly comparable.

Any investigation which does not take into account the condition of the labouring classes in the great industries of the country must necessarily give a very erroneous impression of the physique of these classes. The increase in the rate of wages in all forms of labour to that extent diminishes the attractions of a military career for those engaged in regular labour, and leads to a proportionately larger number of the "unemployed" offering themselves for service in the army.

It is obvious that the casual labourers of the large towns represent the poorest portion of the population, among whom the lowest standard of physique would be found; but the College is not in possession of any evidence which satisfies it that there is any physical degeneration of the urban population generally. Moreover, the fact that the urban death-rate has declined between five and six per thousand, and now more closely approximates that of the rural population, makes it unlikely that such deterioration is taking place.

The question of what *means* are available for remedying existing defects in and improving the national health may, perhaps, be briefly summed up as those which tend to diminish poverty. At the same time the College desires to point out that very great changes in the conditions of life have taken place during the last fifty years, the effects of some of which are not yet determined. Among these should be considered the alterations in character of the food, the compulsory education and confinement in schools of young children, and the very great increase of female labour in towns. Could an inquiry be made into the present physical condition of the

nation, it is self-evident that it would be of great value ; but one dealing with a portion only of the population would be likely to lead to error. Such an inquiry would naturally include the above subjects, the experiences of the Royal Navy, and other services of the State.

It hardly comes within the province of the College to state its views with regard to the composition of such a Commission as is suggested. If decided upon by the Government, it would be prepared, in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons of England, to suggest names, should it be thought desirable to place members of the medical profession on the Commission.

W. S. CHURCH, *President*.

27th July, 1903.

In the course of the autumn the Lord President of the Council appointed a Committee to inquire further into the subject of the physical deterioration of recruits, and the whole matter was transferred from the War Office to the Privy Council. The Director-General considered that the College, in the remarks that it returned to the Secretary for War, had laid too much weight on the absence of any statistics or facts showing *progressive* deterioration, and a further memorandum by Sir Wm. Taylor with supplementary statistics was forwarded to the College with a request that it would state if the fresh memorandum and statistics suggested any modification of the opinions it expressed in July. This additional matter was referred by the College to the same Committee which considered the original memorandum ; the College adopted their report, which was to the effect that a consideration of the fresh matter did not suggest any modification of the opinion expressed in July, and that the College was of opinion that an inquiry into the *present extent* and causes of the alleged disability for military service of certain classes of the population is desirable.

At a somewhat later stage of the inquiry the Com-

mittee addressed another communication to the College, requesting it to furnish them with the name or names of medical men who could give "representative" evidence "on the nutrition of the young among the poorer classes," and "on insanity among the poor." The College nominated Drs. Eustace Smith, Ashby, and Hutchison to give evidence on the first, and Dr. Wigglesworth, of Rainhill Asylum, Liverpool, on the second question. Professor Cunningham's evidence before the Committee has also been submitted to the College for consideration, and the question of how to deal with it will come before you to-day.

Another important matter was brought before the College by the Board of Trade, who in 1902 had forwarded a summary of a report drawn up by a Committee of the Norwegian Government on the occurrence of Beri-beri on Norwegian sailing-ships. The College at that time replied to the Board of Trade that no useful conclusions could be drawn from the summary as submitted to the College. Last autumn, the report having been translated *in extenso*, the College, was requested to consider it and report to the Board of Trade. The President, Dr. Payne, and Sir Patrick Manson were appointed a committee for the purpose, and the College adopted their report at the last Comitia.

At the last Comitia a letter was read from the Home Secretary asking the opinion of the College on the important question whether experiments on living animals are necessary for the adequate teaching of pharmacology? and also on the apparent conflict of opinion between the authorities of the London University and certain teachers of the subject. The report of the Committee upon the Home Secretary's letter comes before you to-day, and is as follows:

REPORT OF THE PHARMACOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTS COMMITTEE.

Members of the Committee:—Sir Wm. Church (President), Dr. Ferrier (Censor), Dr. Pavy, Dr. Pye-Smith, Sir Lauder Brunton, Dr. Halliburton, Dr. Fredk. Smith, Dr. Bradford.

The Committee appointed by the College, January 28th, 1904, to consider and report upon the letter received from the Home Office, December 15th, 1903, on the question of the necessity for experiments on living and anæsthetised animals in the teaching of Pharmacology, report that:

The subject of Pharmacology, like those of Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, and the other sciences, can only be adequately taught with the aid of demonstrations, involving, in the case of Physiology and Pharmacology, experiments on living animals. While progress in the prevention and cure of disease ultimately depends on advances in Physiology and Pathology, no branch of medicine is so immediately and directly connected with experiments as that of Pharmacology, or the action of remedies.

The regulations of the University of London with regard to the teaching of Pharmacology* expressly contemplate the demonstration of the action of drugs, and they are framed with the intention of such experiments being included in the curriculum if thought necessary by the teachers of Pharmacology. In the opinion of the Committee, the meaning of the letter of the Principal undoubtedly is, that experiments on anæsthetised animals are not compulsory for the recognition by the University of courses of instruction.

In the opinion of the Committee experiments on living animals are already so carefully safeguarded by the Act (39

* The curriculum in Pharmacology, including Pharmacy and Materia Medica, shall consist of:

(1) A course of lectures and demonstrations, extending over at least three months, relating to the pharmacological actions of drugs and other medicinal agents upon the chief functions of the animal body, viz.: Circulation, Respiration, Digestion and Absorption, Secretion and Excretion, Metabolism, Heat Regulation, Motor, Sensory and Reflex Mechanisms, and to the chemical transformations undergone in the body by the principal medicinal substances.

(2) A course of instruction in Practical Pharmacy and Materia Medica extending over not less than two months, including practical knowledge of the preparation of medicines and of the constituents of the more important compound preparations of the British Pharmacopœia.

and 40 Victoria) that it may be safely left to the discretion of the individual teachers of Pharmacology how far, and in what way, they should make use of experiments on living animals in their courses of instruction.

W. S. CHURCH, *President*.

In conclusion I have to thank the College and its Officers for the help and support that they have afforded me, not only during the past year, but during the whole time that I have had the honour of being their President; and more especially are my thanks due to our Registrar, who, by his advice and intimate knowledge of everything connected with our College greatly lightens the work of your Presidents. I doubt if it is generally known to the Fellows how large is the amount of work which now falls upon our Registrar, and I take this opportunity of thanking him for the constant and invaluable aid that he has so freely given me.

By your favour I have held the honourable position of your President for five years, which, I venture to think, is a proof that you have approved of the manner in which I have discharged the duties of the office. During the remainder of my life it will be a constant source of satisfaction to remember that I should have been thought worthy by you of being President of this College. I have endeavoured whilst holding that position to keep in mind the honour and dignity of the College and the welfare of the medical profession; if I have in any measure succeeded it has been through the cordial and loyal support that you have always so kindly afforded me.

OBITUARY NOTICES OF FELLOWS OF THE COLLEGE WHO
HAVE DIED SINCE THE LAST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

EDMUND LLOYD BIRKETT, M.D.

Dr. Birkett was one of our oldest Fellows, standing second in seniority on the College roll, and had attained the patriarchal age of eighty-nine, having been born in 1814 at No. 3, Cloak Lane, Queen Street, where his father was in practice as a solicitor. At the tender age of eight he went to Eton, whence he proceeded to Caius College, Cambridge, in 1833. After taking his Cambridge degree in Arts in 1837, he studied medicine at Guy's Hospital, where he held the post of Secretary to the Clinical Report Society of Guy's, and subsequently was editor of the *Guy's Hospital Reports*. At Guy's also he held for a time the office of Curator of the Museum, where, from some notes furnished by Sir Samuel Wilks to the *Lancet* at the time of Dr. Birkett's death, the pathological department does not then appear to have been very active.

In 1848 he was elected a Fellow of our College, and the next year was appointed Physician to the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, then recently established. With this hospital he remained connected as Physician and Consulting Physician until his death.

It was in connection with Victoria Park Hospital that I made his acquaintance, as he was still in active work on the staff when I was appointed to it in 1865; and I look back gratefully to the kindness and consideration he showed me when first joining the staff.

Soon after his appointment he married (1850) Awdry Heydon, daughter of Mr. B. E. Battley, and upon the death of Dr. Golding Bird moved into his house in Russell Square, where he resided until his retirement from London in 1890.

Dr. Birkett did not add much to medical literature. Besides editing, he furnished a few reports to the *Guy's Hospital Reports*, and re-edited Dr. Golding Bird's work on *Urinary Deposits* and Thomson's *Con-spectus*, adapting it to the British Pharmacopœia. He took his full share in the work of the College, being Censor in 1862–63 ; Senior Censor in 1869 ; Councillor, 1865–67 ; Examiner, 1867–68 ; and Vice-President in 1886.

Upon his retirement from London he lived in the country with his elder son, the Rev. L. Birkett, rector of Westbourne, Sussex, where he fully enjoyed the country life, whilst continuing to take interest in the current topics of the day, and especially in matters relating to the Church. In November, 1902, he suffered from an attack of influenza, which debilitated him, and he gradually grew weaker, and died peacefully on May 8th.

WILLIAM SMOULT PLAYFAIR, M.D.

Dr. Playfair came of a family well known for several generations at St. Andrews, his grandfather having filled the post of Principal of the University, and his uncle Sir Hugh Lyon having been Provost ; his father, Dr. George Playfair, was Inspector-General of Hospitals in Bengal, and left three sons, who all rose to eminence in their respective professions : Lord Playfair, Sir R. Lambert Playfair, K.C.M.G., for long British Consul at Algiers, and William Smoult, who was born in the year 1836. His early life was spent at St. Andrews, where he received his education, and studied medicine at Edinburgh, taking his M.D. degree in 1856, choosing for the subject of his thesis "On Calculus of the Bladder among the Natives of India ;" whilst at Edinburgh he was a dresser to Professor Syme at a time when Lord

Lister was House Surgeon, becoming a Licentiate of the Edinburgh College of Surgeons in 1857, and a Fellow in 1861; in the former year he joined the Bengal Army Medical Service, and served with it during the Mutiny.

At a very early age for such a post he became, in 1869, Professor of Surgery at the Calcutta Medical College, but his health not being good he returned to this country, and in 1863 commenced practice in London, becoming Obstetric Physician to King's College Hospital, and Professor of Obstetric Medicine at King's College.

Dr. Playfair contributed largely to medical literature, being the author of the well-known *Treatise on the Science and Practice of Midwifery*, which has been through nine editions, and was for many years the principal student's handbook; he wrote the article on "Diseases of the Womb" in Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine*, and that on "Systematic Treatment of Functional Neuroses" in the *Dictionary of Psychological Medicine*; in conjunction with Dr. Clifford Allbutt he edited, in 1896, *A System of Gynæcology*, and contributed to it the portion on the Nervous System in relation to Gynæcology. It is in connection with this subject that Playfair's name will be best remembered; he may be looked upon as one of the introducers of the mode of treatment known as the Weir-Mitchell into this country, and he was considered by some to be unduly inclined to recommend it, but I think it is undeniable that he did much to bring its undoubted value in suitable cases to the notice of the profession in this country.

As an obstetrician, Playfair had a very successful career; he had the distinction of being Physician Accoucheur to H.R.H. the Duchess of Edinburgh, and for his professional services to the Crown Princess of Roumania received the insignia of a Grand Officer of

the Crown of Roumania. He took a very active part in the business of the Obstetrical Society, to which he contributed fifteen papers, and served in the capacities of Librarian 1868, Hon. Secretary 1870, Vice-President 1873, and President 1879. He was also a Fellow of the American and Boston Gynecological Society.

Dr. Playfair married a daughter of James Kitson, Esq., of Elmet Hall, Leeds, by whom he leaves one son and three daughters. Late in life he became involved in a very disagreeable libel suit, in which the verdict went against him. I need not allude to it further than to say that although the verdict of the jury was adverse, no shadow of dishonour could be attributed to Dr. Playfair, and at the dinner given to him on his retirement from his offices at King's College in 1898, he quoted the following passage which he had received in a letter from Mr. Gladstone, to whom he was practically unknown: "Having most carefully studied all the evidence in this trial, I can come to no other conclusion than that you have done neither more nor less than your duty."

Dr. Playfair became a Fellow of our College in 1870, and received the degrees of Hon. LL.D. of St. Andrews in 1885, and of Edinburgh in 1898.

Soon after retiring from London his health began to fail, and he died after a lingering illness on August 13th at St. Andrews, and was laid to rest in the new cemetery, where his brother had been buried.

WILLIAM HENRY CORFIELD, M.D.

Professor Corfield, who died at Marstrand, Sweden, on August 26th, had for many years been a prominent figure among sanitary authorities, and had the distinction when only twenty-six years of age of being the

first occupant of the chair of hygiene and public health which was established in 1869 at University College. He was born at Shrewsbury on December 14th, 1843, and educated at Cheltenham Grammar School; when seventeen years old he obtained a Demyship in Natural Science at Magdalen, Oxford. His University career was unusually brilliant and successful, obtaining a first class in Moderations in Mathematics, and was placed in the first class in the final school of Natural Science in 1864. He was elected the following year to the Shepherd Medical Fellowship at Pembroke. In 1866 he won the Burdett-Coutts Scholarship in Geology, and the following year became Radcliffe Travelling Fellow, and shortly afterwards studied at University College Hospital, taking his M.B. degree at Oxford in 1868, becoming a member of our College the following year. His tastes and education thus peculiarly fitted him for the department of medicine to which he devoted himself; a mathematician and a geologist he was especially well fitted to examine into the statistical and geological questions connected with public health. When travelling, as he was bound to do by his fellowship, he studied at Paris and Lyons, and proceeded to Italy and Sicily, being attracted thereto not only by his desire of visiting some of the Italian medical schools, but from his wish to observe the geological features of the country.

At the request of the Committee appointed by the British Association to report on the Treatment and Utilisation of Sewage, he compiled "A Digest of Facts relating to the Treatment and Utilisation of Sewage," which was published in 1870, a task which not only showed his grasp of the subject, but also gave proof of much original work and thought.

It would be tedious were I to mention the numerous

papers he read before various societies, and the pamphlets which he published; the most important perhaps are his book on "Dwelling Houses, their Sanitary Construction and Arrangements"; "The Laws of Health"; "Drains and Defective House Sanitation," which has been translated into most European languages, and formed the Caistor Lectures delivered by him for the Society of Arts.

In 1871 Dr. Corfield was elected Medical Officer of Health for Islington, and the following year left Islington for the similar appointment to St. George's, Hanover Square, which he held for twenty-eight years.

He became a Fellow of our College in 1875, served as Councillor 1898–1900, and was Milroy Lecturer in 1900, taking for his subject "The Etiology of Typhoid Fever and its Prevention."

In addition to his public appointments he had a large practice as a consulting sanitarian, his name being prominently brought before the public in 1871 in connection with His Majesty's attack of typhoid fever, supposed to have been contracted at Londesborough Lodge.

Corfield instituted the first Public Health Laboratory at University College, and took an active interest in establishing the Parkes Museum, and was one of the originators of the International Congress of Hygiene first held in 1891. His work was fully recognised on the Continent, where he was an honorary member of many learned societies, and Bronze Medallist of the Royal Society of Public Health of Belgium.

Professor Corfield was one of the first to devote himself to sanitary science from the commencement of his career; until that time sanitarians had been either engineers or medical men who from force of circumstances rather than from choice had to take part in

questions regarding the public health. He took a wide and comprehensive view of the subject, and he may be regarded as a sanitarian in its wider sense rather than as a medical officer of health.

Notwithstanding his busy life Corfield was interested in many other subjects than purely professional ones, he was a Fellow of the Geological Society, a connoisseur in books and their bindings, and a collector of Bewick's woodcuts; whilst to the end of his life he delighted in outdoor pursuits and the study of nature, as is evidenced in his papers on "Mountain Climbing," "Etna in Winter," on the "Volcanoes of Auvergne," and on "Pile Dwellings in the Swiss Lakes"; he was also an ardent fisherman, and had formed a valuable collection of books on angling.

For several years before his death it was but too evident that his health was seriously undermined. He suffered greatly from dyspepsia, accompanied by weakening and exhausting diarrhoea. A temporary cessation of his most distressing symptoms caused so much improvement in his looks that it was hoped it might be lasting, and he felt himself so much better last summer that he went to Marstrand for a holiday and fishing.

Dr. Corfield married in 1876 Emily Madelina, daughter of the late Mr. John Pike, F.S.A., who predeceased him, and leaves a family of six children.

JOHN TATHAM, M.D.

Dr. John Tatham was born at Burton-in-Lonsdale, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, on August 5th, 1834, where his father and many preceding generations had been small landowners. He was educated at Rossal School, entering the school very soon after its foundation. An accident met with there was followed by

some chronic affection of the knee, and led to his being an inmate for several months of the house of the family doctor, Mr. T. P. James, of Kirby Lonsdale. Whilst with Mr. James he manifested so strong an inclination towards medicine that he was in 1851 apprenticed to him, subsequently entering as a student at the Middlesex Hospital, where, after qualifying, he held the office of House Surgeon.

In 1859 he went to Naples as private medical attendant on Lord Holland, and remained with him until his death some three years later; and Lord Holland valued his services so highly that he left him a pension for life. Upon Lord Holland's death he studied medicine for a time at Paris, and on returning to England became M.D. of St. Andrews in 1862, and commenced practice in London. He was for a time Physician to the Royal Pimlico Dispensary and the West London Hospital. In 1868 he was appointed Assistant Physician to the Brompton Hospital, becoming Physician in 1875.

Having independent means, he did not enter much into private practice, but gave up much of his time to the Brompton Hospital, and was a regular attendant at the meetings of the General Committee of Management, and kept a keen eye on the medical requirements of the hospital. Upon retiring from the post of Physician at the Brompton Hospital he was appointed Consulting Physician, and shortly afterwards retired from practice and lived mainly at his native home, Lowfield, Burton-in-Lonsdale, where he died on August 3rd.

Beyond contributing some reports on hygiene and climate to the medical journals, I am not aware that he added to medical literature.

ALFRED SANGSTER, M.D.

Alfred Sangster was born at Streatham on October 24th, 1845. He was educated first at a preparatory school at Richmond, and afterwards at the Grammar School, Denmark Hill. He entered Guy's Hospital as a student of medicine in 1865. His course there was interrupted by a period of study in the University of Aberdeen, and at the end of 1867 he went to Cambridge, entering at Caius College, and taking his B.A. with honours in Natural Science in 1871. Subsequently he worked alternately at Guy's and at the Cambridge Medical Schools; and in 1875 he obtained the M.B., and the same year he took the Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons. In 1876 he became a Member of this College, and in 1885 was elected to the Fellowship.

Writing of him and his accomplishments and character in these early days, an old fellow-student, Dr. Leader Stevenson, of Ravenscourt Park, says: "With respect to his time at Guy's (1871-76), there are two points concerning him which have especially impressed themselves upon my recollection. Firstly, he was one of the most generally popular men in the hospital; for, in spite of the fact that he was prevented by bad health from taking any part in the athletics of the students, he had as many friends amongst those whom I will call the 'sportsmen' as amongst the hard workers. Secondly, he took a leading part in all matters musical."

Dr. Sangster's first appointment in London after being qualified was that of Clinical Registrar and Chloroformist at the Evelina Hospital. Whilst he was still a student his friend and teacher, Dr. Moxon, had discovered that he was the subject of aortic disease, and unfitted for the hard life of a general practitioner, and

advised him to turn his whole attention to diseases of the skin. In 1876 he was appointed Physician for Diseases of the Skin to Charing Cross Hospital. Both at the hospital and in private practice he investigated his cases with extreme care, and began to publish a series of papers on his own subject—some histological, others clinical in character—most of which were read before the Royal Medical and Chirurgical, the Clinical, and the Pathological Societies. About the same time he was also entrusted with a number of the articles on diseases of the skin for Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine*.

In 1882 a great interest was added to his professional life. The Dermatological Society of London, of which he was the first hon. secretary, was founded by him and a few of his friends, and he devoted himself with characteristic zeal to the duties of the office. At the meetings, which were of a definitely clinical character, and less formal than those of most other learned societies, he was entirely in his element.

Meanwhile Dr. Sangster was building up a consulting practice in his special department of medicine, but neither his health nor strength enabled him to practise on more than a moderate scale. More than once he proposed to retire from the profession, but he held bravely on until 1897, when he definitely left London and settled quietly at St. Peter's-in-Thanet.

At St. Peter's he led a life of retirement with his family in full and quiet enjoyment of music, literature, and art. The quiet life on the Kent coast was favourable to his health, and he suffered less both from cardiac distress and sick headache. Unhappily, in the autumn of last year he persuaded himself that he was able to attend a course of University Extension Lectures at Oxford, where he broke down in a few weeks, and on his return it was found that the old lesion of the aortic

valves, of which he had been the subject for so many years, had become infected. For nearly four months he suffered from fever, complicated towards the end with rigors, and on December 9th he died suddenly at a comparatively early age.

Those who were intimately acquainted with Dr. Sangster had a very high opinion of his abilities and character, but ill-health and a naturally retiring disposition prevented his being generally known in the College, and the same causes precluded him from taking part in the College work. At his hospital he was held in affectionate regard by his colleagues and students, and his loss is deeply regretted by his personal friends.

JOHN WILLIAM HUE.

John William Hue, who died in the 84th year of his age, on December 24th, at his residence in Dresden, was the son of Dr. Clement Hue, Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

After taking his B.A. degree at the University of Cambridge, Hue studied medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, more, I understand from one of his few remaining contemporaries, from his father's wish than because he had any taste for the subject. He became a Licentiate of the College in 1850, and for a short time held the office of Physician to the Hospital Ship "Dreadnought." His father was bent on his son becoming, like himself, Physician to the Hospital, and John William Hue came forward as a candidate for the vacant assistant physiciancy in 1854, when, after a close contest, Dr. Kirkes was successful, mainly through the support of Sir William Lawrence. After his defeat, Hue virtually retired from his profession, and

although he obtained the Fellowship of our College in 1856 and remained in his father's house in Bedford Square for some years, I believe he never engaged in private practice. He was much devoted to music, in which he was no mean proficient, and retired to the Isle of Wight, but lived much abroad. He married late in life and left no family.

SIR EDWARD HENRY SIEVEKING, LL.D., M.D.

By the death of Sir Edward Sieveking the College loses one of its oldest and most respected Fellows, who occupied for many years a very prominent position both in the College and Society. His family had for several generations taken a leading part in the mercantile and intellectual life of Hamburg, whence in 1809 his father Edward came to London and carried on business at 65, Fenchurch Street, residing at Bailey's Lane, Stamford Hill; his mother was a daughter of Senator J. V. Meyer, of Hamburg. Sieveking was born in St. Helen's Place on August 24th, 1816, and was educated partly in this country and partly on the Continent. After passing the *Arbiturienten examen* he entered the University of Berlin, where he learnt dissection under Schiemann, and attended Johannes Müller's lectures on physiology; from Berlin he went for a year to the University of Bonn, and returning to England studied medicine at University College Hospital, graduating M.D. at Edinburgh in 1841, which University at a later date conferred on him the LL.D. degree *honoris causâ*. Soon after graduating he proceeded to Paris, where he studied at the Hôtel Dieu under Andral, and attended the practice of Ricord at the Hôpital du Midi; subsequently he visited Vienna, being attracted by the fame of Jäger, and attended a course of ophthalmic

surgery conducted by his assistant Rigi. Sieveking thus fully prepared himself for the practice of his profession which he first commenced in Hamburg, practising for four years there principally among the English residents. In Hamburg he assisted his aunt, Miss Amelia Sieveking, in founding a children's hospital, and delivered a course of lectures in connection with it. His aunt Amelia was a well-known philanthropist in Hamburg and an early advocate of skilled nursing.

In 1846 he established himself in London, becoming a Member of our College in the following year, and in 1849 married Jane, daughter of John Ray, J.P., of Parkgate, Finchley. At this time of his life he was a good deal engaged in literary work, and held the post of Physician to the Northern Dispensary, and Physician to the Lock Hospital. In 1851, upon the opening of St. Mary's Hospital, he joined its staff as Assistant Physician, becoming Physician in 1860, and held that position for twenty-eight years, and remained Consulting Physician up to his death. For many years he was lecturer on *Materia Medica* in the Hospital Medical School.

In 1852 he was elected a Fellow of our College, and in addition to serving as Examiner, Councillor, and Censor was appointed Croonian Lecturer in 1866; Harveian Orator in 1877, and was one of the Vice-Presidents appointed during the Presidency of Sir William Jenner in 1888. His Harveian Oration contains an interesting description of the MS. of Harvey's Lectures which had a few months before been rediscovered after having been missing for many years. Sir Edward took much interest in the steps taken by the College to reproduce the MS. in autotype.

Sir Edward's professional position after joining the staff of St. Mary's Hospital rapidly improved, so that

within a few years he occupied a leading place among the consulting physicians in London and was elected President of the Harveian Society in 1861. In 1863 he was appointed Physician in Ordinary to the Prince of Wales, having for some years held the post of Physician in Ordinary to the late Duke of Cambridge. In 1873 he was made Physician Extraordinary to H.M. Queen Victoria, was knighted in 1886, became Physician in Ordinary in 1888, and upon the Queen's decease he became Physician Extraordinary to H.M. the King.

As might be expected from his desire to be thoroughly abreast of the medical knowledge of the day, Sir Edward turned his attention to the laryngoscope when it was first introduced into clinical practice, and in 1862 published his "Practical Remarks on Laryngeal Disease as illustrated by the Laryngoscope."

Sir Edward's literary work was varied and considerable; his first work published in this country was a small pamphlet on "The Training Institutions for Nurses and the Workhouses," a subject which he also brought before the Epidemiological Society. Nursing and all connected with it was a subject of much interest to him throughout life, and he valued highly the distinction of being Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

His friendship with Sir John Forbes led to his undertaking the Editorship of the *British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review* upon the former's resignation. He also translated the second volume of Rokitsky's work on "Pathological Anatomy" and "Romberg on Nervous Diseases," and in conjunction with his friend and colleague Dr. Handfield Jones he published the well-known *Manual of Pathological Anatomy* which for many years held its place as a regular textbook in our medical schools.

The study of affections of the nervous system had especial attractions for him, and from 1864 to 1867 he held the post of Physician to the Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square. His principal monograph is that on "Epilepsy and Epileptiform Seizures, their Causes, Pathology and Treatment," and he contributed two communications on the subject to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society's *Transactions*. Among his other medical writings his work "The Medical Adviser in Life Assurance" is perhaps the best known.

I had not the advantage and pleasure of knowing Sir Edward Sieveking intimately, but if I may venture to express an opinion on his character, its leading feature was thoroughness. I have shown what pains he took to equip himself for the practice of his profession, and in his subsequent life he gave abundant evidence of how earnestly and successfully he worked at any subject on which he embarked. As a young man he founded when in Hamburg the Alster Rowing Club, which I understand still exists. He took great interest in the foundation of Epsom College and was its first Honorary Secretary and served on the Council for many years and filled the post of Vice-President to the Institution. Sir Edward was President of the Royal Medical Chirurgical Society when it moved from its old quarters in Berners Street to Hanover Square, and it was mainly through his labours that a Committee on Climatology and Balneology was appointed, and through their labours a satisfactory account of British watering places and health resorts compiled. Upon the termination of his Presidency he presented the Society with the handsome badge of office now worn by the President.

Sir Edward took an active part in the Council of the British Medical Association, being for many years the

representative on it of the Metropolitan branch. He gave the address on medicine at the Sheffield meeting, and it was mainly through his instrumentality that the Association founded its medals for distinguished merit.

Thus throughout his long and useful life we find him continually improving his own knowledge and promoting the advance of medicine, or actively engaged in assisting to further some good object. He played an important part in raising the Medical School of St. Mary's to its present position, and was the valued friend and counsellor of the members of the staff who served with or succeeded him. He retained his activity of mind and body to an advanced age, and died at his house in Manchester Square from pneumonia after a few days' illness on February 24th, and was buried at Abney Park Cemetery. The first portion of the service was held at St. Thomas's Church, Orchard Street, which the President, Censors, and other Officers of the College attended in their robes.

ALEXANDER DAVIDSON, M.D.

Dr. Davidson was one of the best known of our provincial Fellows, and had occupied an important position in the medical life of Liverpool for many years. He was the son of the Rev. Peter Davidson, the value of whose ministerial work in Edinburgh was so greatly appreciated that the Davidson Memorial Church was built there to perpetuate his memory. Alexander Davidson was born in Edinburgh in 1838, and received both his school and University education in that city, taking an Arts degree as well as that of Bachelor of Medicine in 1863, and proceeding to the doctorate in 1872. His first medical appointment was that of resident medical officer in the fever wards of the Brad-

ford Infirmary; he had the misfortune to contract typhoid fever whilst in the discharge of his duties there, which was followed by phlebitis, a condition which recurred from time to time during the rest of his life, and which was ultimately the cause of his death.

Two or three years later he commenced general practice in Liverpool and became one of the medical officers to the Southern Dispensary and to the Infirmary for Children. In 1872 he was elected Physician to the Northern Hospital, and four years later to the Royal Infirmary, where he had for some time been filling the post of Lecturer on "Natural History;" subsequently becoming Lecturer on Pathology in the Medical School attached to the Royal Infirmary. In 1874 he became a Member of our College, and was elected to the Fellowship in 1885.

During the long period Dr. Davidson was connected with the Royal Infirmary he gradually formed a large consulting practice in the town and neighbourhood, and took an active part in the development both of the Infirmary and of the Medical School attached to it. The value of his services was recognised by his colleagues when, on his retirement from the Professorship of Pathology, he was appointed Emeritus Professor, and when the University was founded he was given a seat on the Board of the Medical Faculty. He was a member of the Building Committee during the reconstruction of the Royal Infirmary, and his services on it were highly appreciated both by his colleagues and the non-medical members of the Committee.

Dr. Davidson was the author of various articles in Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine*; he wrote also on "Pseudohypertrophic Muscular Paralysis" and various papers in the medical press and journals.

In his earlier life in Liverpool he acted as Secretary

to the Lancashire and Cheshire branch of the British Medical Association, and served the office of President of the branch.

I was not personally acquainted with Dr. Davidson ; one of his old friends and colleagues thus writes of him :

“ His character was marked by strength, decision, unselfishness, and the most absolute truthfulness. There was an apparent sternness at times in his speech and demeanour ; but this was really a mask covering the greatest kindliness and warmth of heart. How kind and helpful he was to those who sought his counsel many can testify. Moreover his judgment was one to rely upon in no common degree. Professionally he was a sound and learned physician, an excellent pathologist, and a successful teacher.”

During the last few years Dr. Davidson did not take any active part in the scheme and changes affecting medical education in Liverpool. His health began to fail seriously in the autumn of last year, and he died at his house, 2, Gambier Terrace, on March 3rd, leaving a widow and one son.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

APRIL 17TH, 1905.

BY

SIR W. S. CHURCH, BART., K.C.B., M.D.

PRESIDENT.

London

ADLARD AND SON

BARTHOLOMEW CLOSE

1905

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS, 1905.

THE College is to be congratulated on its present position, numerically it has never stood higher, and our financial position is better than it has been for some years.

At the end of last year the number of Fellows on the Roll was 324, and of Members 462; the Licentiates amounted to 9979, and of the old order of *extra urbem* Licentiates, 5 still remained.

Ten Fellows, 20 Members, and 432 Licentiates were admitted during the year; whilst the losses by death were 9* Fellows, 7 Members, and, as far as I know, 66 Licentiates.

The first of our Fellows to be taken from us was Dr. C. Kelly.

CHARLES KELLY, M.D.

Charles Kelly, who died on June 16th, was the second son of Mr. James Kelly, a surgeon practising in the town of Market Deeping, in Lincolnshire, where Charles was born on the 25th of October, 1844.

* The obituary notice of one was given in my last year's address.
—W. S. C.

He received his early education at home from a Mr. Rattray, and went directly from his father's house to the Medical School of King's College Hospital, where he greatly distinguished himself, obtaining the University Scholarship in Medicine and Midwifery at the M.B. examination 1866, and the Gold Medal at the M.D. examination of the University of London in the following year.

After qualifying as L.S.A., 1865, and M.R.C.S.Eng., 1866, he held the junior office of House Physician, and was appointed Curator of the Anatomical and Pathological Museum in 1869, becoming Assistant Physician to the Hospital the same year. He was elected a Fellow of King's College in 1871, and in 1874 resigned his appointments at King's College upon becoming Medical Officer of Health for West Sussex; his scientific tastes leading him to prefer the duties of a medical officer of health to a struggle for practice.

It was not long before the value of his annual reports were recognised by sanitarians.

One of the best known of his contributions to public health literature is his investigation into the relative frequency and fatality of phthisis and diphtheria on soils of different natures, in which he showed that the mortality from diphtheria in the populations living on retentive soils was very greatly higher than in those resident on pervious soils, while the deaths from phthisis bore nearly the same proportion to the total deaths, on all varieties of soil. His report also on the outbreak of typhoid fever at Worthing in 1893 may also be mentioned as one of his most important pieces of work.

He held the Professorship of Hygiene at King's College from 1878 to 1889, but took little or no part in the College business.

Apart from, or perhaps I should more correctly say as part of, his professional work, Dr. Kelly was much interested in meteorological observations. He started and thoroughly organised the existing station at Worthing, and for some years before his death undertook keeping the records.

Dr. Kelly married in 1875 the daughter of the Rev. W. Hyde, Rector of Donyatt, Somerset, who, together with two sons and two daughters, survive to mourn his loss.

THOMAS GILBART SMITH, M.D.

Dr. Gilbert Smith was born in Dublin in the year 1848, and received his early education at a private school in Shropshire, subsequently entering Trinity College, Dublin, in which city his father, the Rev. J. Denham Smith, was then resident.

He graduated at Trinity College in Arts and Medicine in the year 1869, and coming to London attended for a short time the medical practice at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, subsequently visiting the hospitals in Paris. In 1871 he became a M.R.C.S.Eng., and took his M.D. degree at Dublin in 1873; the following year he passed the Membership examination of our College, and became a Fellow in 1885.

Upon settling in London he filled the post of Clinical Assistant at the Children's Hospital, and was Physician to the Marylebone General Dispensary. Sir Andrew Clark had a high appreciation of his talents, and in 1878 he was appointed an Assistant Physician to the London Hospital, becoming in due course full Physician to the Hospital.

Dr. Gilbert Smith possessed a full share of the proverbial humour and readiness of the Irish, which

rendered him a popular member of the Staff, with the students of the Hospital, and in society.

He was Secretary, and afterwards Vice-President, of the Medical, and President of the Harveian Society, and he took an active part in the management of the Irish Medical Schools and Graduates' Association. Beyond one paper written in conjunction with the late Mr. Walsham on "A Case of Extreme Pharyngeal Stenosis" in the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society's *Transactions*, I am not aware that he added anything to medical literature.

Symptoms of a failing heart had been present for some time before his death, which occurred on August 3rd, when bicycling with one of his sons during a holiday in Devonshire.

Dr. Gilbert Smith married a daughter of Mr. Thomas Bewlay, of Rockville, co. Dublin, who, with three sons, survives his decease.

SIR FREDERIC BATEMAN, M.D.

Sir Frederic Bateman came of a family long resident in Norwich, where his father, John, served the office of Sheriff in 1837. Frederic was born on July 8th, 1824. His earliest introduction to medicine was at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, but the greater part of his medical education was obtained in Paris, where in 1846 he took the qualification of *Officier de Santé*; subsequently studying at University College he took the M.R.C.S.Eng., 1849, and graduated as M.D. at Aberdeen the following year, becoming also a Licentiate of the Apothecaries' Society.

He was appointed to the offices of House Surgeon and Resident Apothecary at the Norwich Hospital in 1851, and on resigning these posts entered into partner

ship with Mr. Gibson in Norwich. In 1864 he gave up general practice to become Physician to the Norwich Hospital, and two years later obtained the Membership of this College, becoming a Fellow 1876.

Sir Frederic returned to Paris for some time in the early sixties, and his French medical education caused him to follow with much interest the physiology and pathology connected with the function of speech which was at that time attracting so much notice in Paris. Soon after becoming Physician to the Norwich Hospital a waterman [Sainty], aged 51, was admitted to his ward with sudden loss of speech, and for some days could only utter the words, "Oh, dear;" this case still more actively directed his attention to the subject of aphasia, and led to his publishing various papers in the *Journal of Mental Science*, which were collected and published in book form in 1870.

Bateman's book is a useful digest of what was then known on the subject, and was illustrated by a few cases of his own; its merits were generally recognised, and it gained the Alvarenza Prize, and procured his admission to the Paris Academy of Medicine.

He sums up in 1870 his conclusion with regard to loss of speech as follows:—"I consider it by no means proved that there is a cerebral centre for speech at all, and I would venture to suggest that speech, like the soul, may be something, the comprehension of which is beyond our finite minds." In the greatly enlarged and expanded second edition, published in 1890, this conclusion is withdrawn, and in its place he quotes, as expressing his own view, the opinion of Professor Kussmaul. "For the purposes of speech there exists an apparatus as vast as it is complicated. A simple centre of language or seat of speech does not exist in

the brain any more than a seat of the soul exists in a single centre."

Bateman was much interested in all questions relating to mental diseases. He was Physician to the Eastern Counties Asylum at Colchester, Honorary Physician to the Norwich City Asylum, Consulting Physician to the Bethel Hospital, to the Jenny Lind Infirmary, and the Norfolk and Norwich Eye Infirmary; he was also a corresponding member of various foreign psychological and neurological societies. His small brochure, *The Idiot; his place in creation and claim on society*, was an appeal to the charitable rather than a scientific book; and his *Darwinism Tested by Language* treats of evolution rather from the standpoint of orthodoxy than of science.

Sir Frederic took a part in the municipal affairs of his native city, being a Justice of the Peace for the Borough and for the County, and served like his father the office of Sheriff of Norwich in 1872. He was knighted in 1892, and received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Aberdeen the following year.*

Sir Frederic was a cultivated man, fond of literature and well read in many subjects; he worthily represented the College for many years in his native city, and his kindly disposition and high integrity gained him the good opinion and respect of his professional brethren.

Sir Frederic married in 1855 Miss Gooderson, a member of a Norwich family, and by her left three sons, all in the medical profession, and two daughters.

Two days before his death he resigned the office of Consulting Physician to the Bethel Hospital for Lunatics, and the next day complained of weakness and of the heat, and died after a long and useful life on the morning of August 10th.

ANGEL MONEY, M.D.

Few men gave greater promise of rising to fame and eminence in their profession than Angel Money, who had a career of unusual brilliance at University College Hospital. Money was descended from a Jewish family, his uncle, Dr. Angel, being Headmaster of the Jews' Free School, Spitalfields. His father marrying a Christian, assumed the name of Money. Angel was one of a numerous family; he was born in 1856, and received his early education at a private school, where he was always head of his class. He entered at University College in 1873, being at that time apprenticed to a medical practitioner who kept a dispensary where Money had to dispense his principal's prescriptions from a limited number of stoneware pots. He soon freed himself from his apprenticeship, and recognising the necessity of matriculating at the London University, returned to his arts studies, and after matriculating and passing the preliminary scientific examination, resumed his medical course and became a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1879, and the following year graduated at the University as Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, obtaining a Gold Medal in each subject.

At University College Hospital he held the usual residential appointments, took his doctor's degree at the London University in 1881, and became a Member of our College in 1883. He was appointed Assistant Physician to Victoria Park Hospital in 1883, and to the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, in 1885; two years later he was elected on to the Staff of University College Hospital, where he quickly became a popular teacher, his extensive learning and ardent pursuit of clinical knowledge attracted the students, and his somewhat

extravagant language added piquancy to his remarks and helped to fix their attention.

In 1883 Money joined the staff of the *Lancet*, and in 1887 published a work on the *Treatment of Diseases in Children*, including the outlines “of diagnosis and the chief pathological differences between children and adults,” which achieved considerable success, and of which he published an enlarged and revised edition in 1890.

In 1889 he brought out a larger work, *The Students' Text-book of the Practice of Medicine*. In the same year he was elected a Fellow of our College, and a career of usefulness and success appeared assured to him. Unfortunately he had overtaxed his strength. Sanguine and enthusiastic by nature he threw himself with eagerness not only into hospital, but also into literary and scientific work which led to a complete nervous breakdown in 1891. On his recovery he resigned his London posts and went to Cape Town with the intention of practising there, but in a few months returned to London, and recognising the advisability of starting afresh in a new country, finally quitted this country for Australia, where he settled in Sydney and rapidly secured an extensive consulting practice.

About a year before his death he suffered from another mental breakdown, necessitating his confinement in an asylum. From this attack he recovered and went for a voyage to recruit his health, and very shortly after his return to Sydney he was found dead in his bed on the morning of September 2nd.

WILLIAM LEE DICKINSON, M.D.

The College will, I am sure, join with me in offering to our honoured and respected Fellow, Dr. Howship

Dickinson, our sincere sympathy in the loss that he and his family have sustained by the premature death of William Lee Dickinson, his elder son.

William Lee Dickinson was born in Chesterfield Street on the 18th of December, 1863, and was educated at Winchester and Caius College, Cambridge, and received his medical education at St. George's Hospital, becoming a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1886 and of our College in 1889. He took the M.B. degree at Cambridge in 1890, and his doctor's degree in 1893, becoming a Fellow of our College the following year. After filling the offices of Medical Registrar and Curator of the Museum at St. George's, he was elected Assistant Physician to St. George's in 1894, and in the year following to the post of Assistant Physician at the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, which latter post he resigned in 1900. Dr. Dickinson contributed to *Allbutt's System of Medicine* the article on "Subphrenic Abscess" and "Diaphragmatic Hernia;" he also communicated numerous excellent papers to the *Transactions* of the Pathological and Clinical Societies, of which he was a Fellow, as well as of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society.

When working in the Physiological Laboratory at Cambridge, he communicated to the Royal Society, in conjunction with Professor Langley, two papers "On the Local Paralysis of Peripheral Ganglia, and on the Connection of Different Classes of Nerve Fibres with them," and "Progressive Paralysis of the Nerve Cells of the Superior Cervical Ganglion," and published valuable papers in the *Journal of Physiology* on the action of various poisons upon nerve fibres and peripheral nerve cells, and on other subjects.

In 1898 he was appointed Lecturer on Toxicology and Forensic Medicine in St. George's Medical School,

and in the autumn of that year he was granted six months' leave of absence, unequivocal symptoms of tuberculosis having manifested themselves. He spent most of the winter in the neighbourhood of Harrismith, and returned from South Africa in improved health, and determined to pursue his professional life, and not consider himself an invalid.

A colleague who knew him well writes of him—

“As a physician Dr. Lee Dickinson was painstaking, careful, and accurate, very considerate of his patients, and very successful both in diagnosis and treatment. To his friends and colleagues his loss will be a personal grief, for he was greatly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. His was, indeed, an engaging personality. Modest, shy, and reserved it took some time to know him well, but no one could fail to recognise and feel the attraction of his gentle courtesy, his transparent honesty, his devotion to duty, and his kindness of heart.

“We cannot but feel that his death has taken from us one who, had health been given him, would, without doubt, have added distinction to his profession, his hospital, and his medical school.”

Dr. Dickinson's death occurred on September 6th, whilst staying at his father's house near Tintagel, Cornwall, from a sudden attack of pulmonary hæmorrhage.

GEORGE VIVIAN POORE, M.D.

The fellows of the College heard with great regret, but without surprise, of the death of Dr. Poore on November 23rd, at the comparatively early age of sixty-one. It was obvious to his many friends in the College that his health was very seriously impaired before his retirement from London to his house and garden at Andover where rest and quiet failed to restore his health.

Dr. Poore belonged to a medical family, for his grandfather and great-grandfather were members of the profession, although his own father was a commander in the Royal Navy, who, on leaving active service, settled at Andover, where Poore was born on September 23rd, 1843, being the youngest of a numerous family. It was owing probably to his father's profession that Poore was sent as a boy to the Royal Naval School at New Cross, where he remained until he was seventeen years of age. His desire to enter the medical profession caused him to decline the cadetship placed at the disposal of the headmaster by the Lords of the Admiralty, which was offered to him as the reward of his good conduct and progress at school. He was consequently placed with Dr. Luther Fox at Broughton, Hants, and on leaving him matriculated at the London University, and entered the Medical School of University College Hospital, becoming a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1866. Soon after qualifying he acted as a Surgeon on board the "Great Eastern" when engaged in laying the electric cable to America, a circumstance which may have turned his attention to medical electricity, on which he wrote one of the earliest and best text-books.

In 1867 he gained the Atkinson-Morley Scholarship at University College Hospital, and the following year graduated as Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery at the London University obtaining the scholarship in Medicine. In 1870 he took the membership of our College, and his doctor's degree in 1871, and became a Fellow of our College in 1877, and Harveian Orator, 1899.

In 1870, upon the recommendation of Sir William Jenner, the Queen appointed him Medical Attendant on Prince Leopold, but his constant attendance appearing unnecessary he returned to London in 1871. In March

of the following year Dr. Poore was chosen to accompany the Prince and Princess of Wales on the tour they made to the south of France and Italy upon the recovery of the Prince from his attack of typhoid fever. The Prince and Princess were joined while in Rome by the King and Queen of Denmark and Princess Thyra, and during their visit to Milan it was found that Princess Thyra was suffering from typhoid fever. Dr. Poore remained in attendance until her recovery, and as a recognition of the value of his services received the distinction of being made a Knight Commander of the Order of the Dannebrog. Rejoining the Prince and Princess of Wales in Paris he returned with them to England. Their Royal Highnesses and the Duchess of Albany, until the end of his life, gratefully remembered the services he had done them, and the last house that he stayed at, outside his own family circle, was Claremont.

Poore's ability and success as a student naturally led to his becoming a member of the Staff of University College Hospital, where, after filling the post of Resident Medical Officer from 1869-71, he was elected Assistant Physician in 1875, and full Physician in 1883. In the Medical School he held, from 1880 to 1889, the Lectureship of Medical Jurisprudence, a subject on which he had already given a course of lectures at Charing Cross Hospital, and subsequently, in 1900, he was appointed Professor of Medicine. Failing health compelled his resigning this chair in 1903, together with the office of Physician to the hospital. Upon his resignation his colleagues and former pupils showed their high appreciation of him and his services to the School and Hospital by presenting him with a testimonial and a valuable piece of plate, whilst University

College bestowed on him the title of Emeritus Professor of Medicine.

The versatility of Poore's mind is shown by the number of subjects on which he wrote, and on all he wrote well, his style being singularly attractive, clear, and condensed, but failing to fully reproduce the striking effect of his spoken utterances and lectures. Poore had a natural gift as a speaker and actor; as a child he delighted, before he could read, in lecturing on the pictures in his childish books, and at one time he was greatly in request as an amateur actor.

His text-book of *Electricity in Medicine and Surgery*, published in 1876, was one of the first of his works, and his interest in the application of electricity to diagnosis and treatment in nervous affections led to his translating for the Sydenham Society (1883) selections from Duchenne's works. His monographs on *Diseases of the Throat, Mouth, and Nose* (1881), and on *Nervous Affections of the Hand* (1897), are marked by the same clear judgment and strong common sense which distinguish all his writings.

Though not a professed sanitarian, it is in connection with hygiene and the public health that Poore will hereafter be best remembered. He took a leading part in the establishment of the Parkes's Museum, and was a member of the Executive Committee of the International Congress of Hygiene and Demography held in London in 1891. His works on *The Earth in relation to the Preservation and Destruction of Contagia*, an expansion of his Milroy Lectures in 1899, *The Dwelling House*, and *The Essays on Rural Hygiene* are most interesting reading, thoroughly characteristic of the man. However far professed sanitarians may, at present, differ from his views, there can be little doubt that his main principles are correct, and that in future

much greater attention will be paid to the economic side of the question. His writings on these subjects are full of shrewd remarks, not only on sanitary problems, but on men and the motives which too often interfere with sanitary progress.

His essays on *Rural Hygiene* should be in the hands of every rural landlord and sanitary authority. Poore made the demonstration of his views his hobby, and the results in his hands were excellent, and he took a justifiable pride in showing them to those interested in such subjects.

Dr. Vivian Poore was known to so many of those present that I need not dwell on the charm of his personal character, nor on the wit and humour present in his conversation. It was with unfeigned sorrow that we saw his health failing during the period that he held the post of Censor in the College, and it will be long before those who had the privilege of knowing him will cease to mourn the loss of a high-minded, honourable, and trustworthy friend.

WILLIAM GEORGE VAWDREY LUSH, M.D.

Dr. Lush was born at Wilton, near Salisbury, on May 24th, 1834. His father was a member of a family which had for many generations been resident on a small landed estate at Teffont in Wiltshire, his mother was Rowena, daughter of the Rev. William Vawdrey, Rector of Kennerleigh, Devon.

Dr. Lush's father died when he was ten years of age; his mother lived to an advanced age, dying in 1890, and between her and her son there existed an unusually close affection. Lush received his early education at Queenwood College, Hants, and was probably attracted to the profession of medicine by the

interest he took in Chemistry, which was then taught there by the late Professor Frankland, whilst Professor Tyndall was, at the same time, acting as another of the science masters at the college. On leaving Queenwood College he was apprenticed to Mr. Martin Coates, of Salisbury, and entered the Medical School of St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1861, where he was, with Sir Dyce Duckworth and myself, one of Sir George Burrows' clinical clerks. He graduated at the London University with triple first-class honours in 1865, became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and took his M.D. degree in 1866, but did not become a Member of this College until 1879, and Fellow in 1889.

On leaving London he commenced practice at Weymouth, where he gradually became one of the best known and most respected members of our profession in the West of England. A few years after settling at Weymouth he was appointed Physician to the Dorset County Hospital, a post he held for thirty-two years, discharging his duties with singular devotion and regularity. He acted also as Consulting Physician to the Royal Weymouth Hospital and the Royal Portland Dispensary.

Dr. Lush took an active and prominent part in forming the Dorset and West Hants Branch of the British Medical Association, of which he was for thirty years Secretary, and his services were so highly appreciated that, on his retirement from that office, the members of the branch presented him with a silver tea and coffee service and a clock.

A sincere Christian and a staunch Churchman, Dr. Lush not only took part in parochial matters, holding the office of Churchwarden for Christ Church, Weymouth, but was active in the ecclesiastical life of his

county, being for many years a prominent member of the Salisbury Diocesan Synod, and Honorary Secretary to the Dorset Branch of the Queen Victoria Clergy Fund. He entered also into municipal and local affairs, being for many years Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Weymouth Water Company, and was a liberal and generous supporter of every movement which, in his opinion, tended to benefit the material or spiritual advancement of those about him.

Those who knew Dr. Lush personally could not but be attracted by the simplicity and straightforwardness of his character, which was so apparent that it compensated for any want of polish that there might be about him. Many of our London fellows must have known him, for he was a frequent attendant at our meetings, and almost invariably secured a few days holiday to be present at the July Comitia, when also he paid a regular visit to the wards of his old hospital. Beyond a few communications to medical journals, I am not aware that he wrote on any medical subject, but he was known far and wide in the West of England as a consultant, where his simplicity and sterling honesty of character had gained the confidence of all classes.

His death was tragic in its suddenness, occurring without any warning whilst attending a committee meeting at the Dorset County Hospital on December 7th.

Dr. Lush left no family, although twice married, first to Miss Taylor, and secondly to Sara, youngest daughter of the Rev. Rowland Ingram, formerly Vicar of Giggleswick, Yorkshire, who survives him.

The general respect and affection in which he was held by all classes was shown by the attendance of an unusually large number of representatives of the clergy,

medical profession, and the county families at his funeral in the churchyard of Radipole, Weymouth.

ADAM BEALEY, M.D.

By the kindness of Dr. Bagshawe I am able to give the following particulars of Dr. Bealey, who reached a patriarchal age, dying in his 92nd year.

He was born on December 17th, 1813, at Radcliffe Close, near Bury, in Lancashire, where his father's family had long been known as chemical dyers and bleachers. He was educated by private tuition, and proceeded to Cambridge, where he took his degree in Arts in 1836.

He returned home and took part in the laboratory work of his father's business for some years. He then became a student at Guy's Hospital under Addison, and was a friend of Dr. S. Habershon and Sir William Gull. He took his M.D.Cantab. in 1854, and became M.R.C.P. in 1855.

After working at the Borough Dispensary he resided in Tavistock Square, and became Physician to the St. Pancras Royal General Dispensary.

In 1868 he went to Harrogate, succeeding to much of the practice of Dr. Kennion. A severe illness in 1874 led him to discontinue his habit of giving gratuitous help to the poor, but it was mainly through his exertions that a cottage hospital, now the Harrogate Infirmary, was started.

Dr. Bealey remained in active practice at Harrogate until 1891, and took much interest in primary education, being one of the Managers of the Harrogate Church Schools. He was a good classical scholar, and kept up his interest in Greek classics to the last. French authors received much of his attention, Pascal's

Pensées, Molière, Bossuet, La Fontaine being his favourites.

He was a Fellow of the Cambridge Philosophical Society, and a wide reader both in scientific and theological subjects, and made a study of modern theological books during the later years of his life. His only medical writing, so far as I know, is the preface to Dr. Kennion's work on the *Harrogate Waters*, which he edited in 1870.

In 1857 he married Mary Isabella Bridges, and had a family of three daughters, but no son.

On retiring from Harrogate Dr. Bealey resided at St. Leonards-on-Sea, and died there of old age on March 5th.

Royal Honours and Distinctions.—His Majesty the King was pleased to confer on Dr. Thomas Stevenson, for many years Scientific Analyst to the Home Office, the honour of knighthood; and a similar honour was bestowed on Dr. Wm. Japp Sinclair, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynæcology, Victoria University, a member of the College.

The University of Oxford, at the encænica, conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Science on your President.

Award of Medals and Scholarships.—The President, in conjunction with the President of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Director of the Medical Department of the Navy, awarded the Gilbert Blane Medals, presented biennially at the Admiralty to the two surgeons who have kept the best scientific and professional journals since the last award, to Staff Surgeon Sidney Thomas Reid, of H.M.S. "Vestal," and to Surgeon Robert William Glennan Stewart, of H.M.S. "Thames."

The Jenks' Memorial Scholarship was awarded, on the recommendation of the Presidents of the Royal Colleges, to Charles Gibson, a former student at Epsom College, now studying Medicine at the London Hospital.

The Charles Murchison Memorial Scholarship was last year awarded by this College to William Henry Harwood-Yarred, a student of St. Thomas's Hospital.

The Harveian Oration.—Dr. Richard Caton delivered the oration on June 21st, the day of the Harveian Commemoration having been changed, by a resolution of the College, from St. Luke's day to the anniversary day of the foundation of the oration. It was anticipated that, by returning to the original day in the summer season, a larger attendance of distinguished guests could be secured, but the results last year were disappointing. Dr. Caton, in his oration, took us back to the period of I-em-hotep, the Æsculapius of the Egyptians, and discussed the knowledge of the circulation they possessed, passing on to a consideration of the value of prolonged rest in warding off the danger of valvular disease in the course of and subsequent to acute rheumatism.

The Croonian Lectures were given by Dr. Bradford in June last, on "Bright's Disease and its varieties." The physiology of the renal organs, the action and effect of nephrotoxins, the separation of acute Bright's disease from acute nephritis, and the features of chronic Bright's disease with contracted kidneys, were successively reviewed by the lecturer.

The Bradshaw Lecture, by Dr. Caiger, was delivered on November 15th, who brought before the College the vast experience he has had as Superintendent of the South-Western Fever Hospital in the treatment of typhoid fever.

The Fitzpatrick Lectures.—The second course of Fitzpatrick Lectures was given by Dr. Payne on the 8th and 10th of November, who continued his account of Anglo-Saxon medicine by a sketch of English medicine in the Anglo-Norman period and the teaching of anatomy in the Middle Ages.

The Dobell Lecture.—On November 22nd Professor Klein delivered the first lecture given under the terms of the recent munificent gift of Dr. Horace Dobell. "The Life-History of Saprophytic and Parasitic Bacteria, and their Mutual Relation" formed the subject of the lecture. The important bearing that symbiosis may have in increasing the virulence of pathogenic organisms was dwelt upon.

The Milroy Lectures were on the important subject of "Industrial Anthrax," which the lecturer, Dr. T. M. Legge, had exceptional experience of as Inspector of Factories.

The Gulstonian Lectures were given by Dr. Bosanquet, who took for his subject "Diabetes Mellitus." After some introductory remarks on the history of the disease, he discussed at length the results of the large number of researches which have been recently made into the nature of the disease, and the part which the pancreas and its secretions play in its production.

The Lumleian Lectures.—Dr. Allchin chose as the subject for these lectures "Nutrition and Malnutrition," and treated of the physiological processes which take place in the assimilation of food, the changes that proteids and carbo-hydrates undergo, and the action which the ferments elaborated by living organs and by the bioplasm have on them.

The Oliver Sharpey Lecture.—"On the Influence of the Atmospheric Pressure on Man" was delivered by Dr. Leonard E. Hill. After briefly summarising the

views which had been held by the earlier observers, he narrated the results of his own laboratory experiments and the recent observations which have been recorded by Mosso, and Zuntz, and Loewz when residing at the Regina Margharita Hut on Monte Rosa, and explained the causes which produce mountain sickness, and the results of excessive pressure, as observed in divers and workers in compressed air.

Gifts to the College.—The library has received many presentations of books, some of considerable value, during the past year, and the College returns its grateful thanks to the donors.

A bust of Sir Andrew Clark, executed by H. Bain-Smith in 1888, was offered by Lady Clark to the College, which accepted her generous gift at the Comitia on April 28th, and returned its sincere thanks to Lady Clark for her kindness in presenting it to the College.

Dr. Wm. Chapman Begley, a Fellow of the College, who died sixteen years ago at the advanced age of eighty-five, requested his widow to present to the College a lithographic print of Esquirol contemplating a bust of Pinel. This intention was communicated to the College by Sir Wm. Jenner in the obituary notice he gave of the deceased Fellow. Mrs. Begley died a few weeks ago, and not only carried out her husband's intentions, but most generously bequeathed £500 to the College. The lithograph itself is of no value or particular interest. Dr. Begley, who was himself an advanced reformer in the treatment of the insane, desired the College to have it as a reminder of the good work accomplished by Pinel, Esquirol, and their followers.

Portrait of Dr. Wm. Harvey.—The College has acquired, by purchase, a portrait of Harvey representing him at a considerably younger age than in our

picture by Jansen. The picture was offered to the College by a dealer at the suggestion of Dr. Theodore Williams. The dealer had obtained it among the effects of Mr. Bowden, another picture dealer, had remounted and cleaned it, but was unacquainted with its history.

The picture so closely resembles the well-known engraving by Houbraken after Bemmél, that there can be little doubt that the picture now obtained is either a copy of that from which the engraving was originally taken, or has been painted from the engraving.

Portrait of the King.—I regret that I cannot report progress in the portrait of His Majesty, our Honorary Fellow. During last year Mr. Luke Fildes' health was not good, and caused delay in the numerous replicas of the King's picture which he has on hand, and he has also been much engaged on the portrait of H.M. the Queen, a companion picture to that of the King. I have several times been in communication with Mr. Fildes, and I believe that he is now in a position to commence the portrait he has undertaken to paint for the College.

Communications with Departments of State.

Board of Trade.—At the Comitia held on April 28th, 1904, a letter was received from the Board of Trade thanking the College for the report on the Norwegian Commissioner's Report on Beri-Beri on Ships, and requesting permission to print and circulate the report drawn up by the College; this was acceded to, and the Board of Trade has presented a few copies to the College.

A communication of an unusual nature came before the College at its meeting on March 28th. In it the Colonial Secretary drew the attention of the College to

the institution, at the University of Cambridge, of an examination and diploma in Tropical Medicine, and requested the College to do the same, saying—

“Mr. Lyttelton would be much gratified if similar encouragement could be given by the Royal College of Physicians to the study of Tropical Medicine, as he considered it a matter of vital importance to the British tropical countries to extend the knowledge of the origin and cure of tropical diseases.”

A precisely similar communication was made to the Royal College of Surgeons.

The matter was referred to the Committee of Management for consideration and report, and a month later the following report came before the College :

The Committee of Management, in accordance with the request of the Royal Colleges, have considered the letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies suggesting that the Royal Colleges should encourage the study of Tropical Medicine as a matter of vital importance to the British Tropical Colonies by holding examinations and granting a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. As this suggestion seems to involve a new principle, the Committee think it right to make the following observations :

The Examinations of the Conjoint Board include the whole of the subjects in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, and the Diplomas of the Royal Colleges are complete testimony of the fitness of those holding them to practise every part of the Medical Profession. The degree of experience of each Practitioner depends upon his actual opportunities of observing disease, but the methods of observation and the principles of deduction from observation are the same in all climates. No methods are pursued in Schools of Tropical Medicine which are not also followed in the Medical Schools and Hospitals of London in relation to the observation of the diseases of this country. The most serious epidemic disorders of hot countries, such as Plague (from which there were about 1,000,000 deaths last year in India) and Cholera, can only be studied where they occur. The investigation of Tropical Diseases

depends upon the general methods of medical observation, and the principles of Surgery, and of operative procedure are the same in the Tropics as at home. A special course of observation of such Tropical Diseases as can be seen in London and other seaports will help the Practitioner to continue his observations when he arrives in the Tropics, but after such a course he cannot have attained so wide an experience of practice as to entitle him to distinction from the Practitioner well trained in Clinical Medicine and Surgery, as these subjects are studied in the United Kingdom. To recommend a special course of study for those nominated for Colonial appointments would seem a wiser procedure than the institution of a Diploma. The Practitioner's knowledge of the facts about which he will have to collect evidence on reaching the Tropics might thus be enlarged. The life history, anatomy, and specific forms of the Mosquito, of other Insects, of Ticks, of Entozoa, and of Protozoa, as well as the pathological changes caused by such animals, might in this course be taught to an extent unnecessary for Practitioners in temperate climates. These are the grounds on which, in the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Royal Colleges might have declined to institute a Diploma in a subject which, though one of special experience, in no way differs in its principles and methods from the subjects studied previous to qualification.

On the other hand Liverpool, where the seaport affords considerable opportunities for Clinical Study of Tropical Diseases, has instituted a Diploma in Tropical Medicine, while the University of Cambridge has decided to conduct examinations for a similar Diploma.

In view of these Diplomas, which might place the Licentiates and Members of the Royal Colleges at a disadvantage, and of the opportunities which exist in London for studying the diseases of Tropical Climates, the Committee of Management recommend that after a sufficient period of observation of such Tropical Diseases, Candidates should be admitted to an examination held by the Royal Colleges, and on passing it should receive a diploma in testimony of this addition to their professional experience.

In the debate which took place on the reception of the report everyone recognised and agreed to the desirability of facilities for the study of tropical diseases being afforded, as far as is possible, in this country for

those who had obtained colonial appointments or intended practising in tropical countries, but great doubts were expressed as to the advisability of instituting a special diploma in Tropical Medicine. After a somewhat lengthy debate the motion that the report of the Committee of Management be adopted was put to the College and negatived by a large majority.

The Council of the College of Surgeons had adopted the report, and hence a difficulty arose as to how the matter should be treated. The College of Surgeons appointed a special Committee of their body to consider and report independently of the Committee of Management as to the action that should be taken.

The College of Surgeons decided in favour of granting a diploma as requested by the Secretary for the Colonies, and forwarded its decision to our College with the proposal that we should appoint delegates to meet them and jointly reconsider the question before returning an answer to Mr. Lyttelton. The delegates for the two Colleges met on July 18th and drew up the following report which was adopted by both Colleges :

1. That with the permission of the Authorities of the Schools of Tropical Medicine, Visitors be appointed by the Royal Colleges of Physicians and of Surgeons to attend the examinations of those Schools, and to report upon the scope of the course of study and of examination, and that a request be addressed to the Naval, Military, and Colonial Authorities to allow Visitors appointed by the two Royal Colleges to attend their examinations in Tropical Medicine for a similar purpose.

2. That at the end of a year a report be addressed by these Visitors to the Royal Colleges on the whole subject of Tropical Medicine.

3. That in the event of the Royal Colleges adopting these recommendations a communication be sent to the Colonial Secretary informing him of these proceedings.

W. S. CHURCH, *Chairman.*

18th July, 1904.

The Colonial Secretary agreed to receive a deputation from the Royal Colleges, whose Presidents waited on Mr. Lyttelton at the House of Commons on August 4th, and placed before him the objections to granting a diploma, and suggested that the objects that he had in view could be obtained without the institution of a fresh diploma, which might be subject to misinterpretation by the public. The suggestion made by them was that certificates of having undergone special courses of study, and of having passed examinations satisfactory to the College might be granted.

Dr. Frederick Taylor and Mr. Godlee, the two visitors appointed by the Royal Colleges, have commenced and are still engaged in the duties they undertook of inspecting the courses of instruction and examinations of the Tropical Schools of Medicine.

Privy Council Office.—Professor D. J. Cunningham and Mr. Gray, in their evidence before the Departmental Committee of the Privy Council, having laid great weight on the desirability of an Anthropometric Survey of the United Kingdom being made, the Commission submitted a *précis* of their evidence to the College with the request that it would make such observations on the scheme as they thought fit. The communication was referred to the College Committee on the Physical Disability of Recruits, Drs. Donkin and Warner taking the places of Drs. Poore and Pringle who had resigned. The Committee reported on May 12th as follows :

Your Committee have considered the scheme and memorandum respecting an Anthropometric Survey submitted to the Physical Deterioration Committee of the Privy Council by Professor D. J. Cunningham and Mr. John Gray, and also the letter of Mr. Almeric FitzRoy with reference thereto.

They are unanimously of opinion that the value of having trustworthy statistics and other data available for the purpose

of comparing the physical condition of the population from time to time cannot be over-estimated.

Whilst approving the measurements and tests suggested in paragraph 14 of Professor Cunningham's memorandum, they consider that in the case of children the circumference of the head should be ascertained as well as the other measurements.

Your Committee desire to bring to the notice of the College their opinion that the scheme for carrying out the Anthropometric Survey—occupying ten years in its completion—would fail to give satisfactory standards for comparison for many years to come; they therefore urge upon the College that it should represent to the Privy Council Committee the desirability that the Physical Census should be completed within a shorter period; and they further consider that it will be advantageous to the State that every child admitted to a primary school should have its height, weight, and certain other data annually recorded during attendance at school.

W. S. CHURCH, *Chairman*.

5th May, 1904.

and the College adopted the report, which was sent in suitable form to the Clerk of the Privy Council as the reply of the College.

Board of Education.—At the end of March, 1904, I received a letter from Mr. Robert Morant, Permanent Secretary of the Board of Education, informing me that Lord Londonderry desired that I would serve on a Departmental Committee of the Board “to inquire into the working of the Royal College of Sciences, including the School of Mines;” the Committee is still in existence, and will continue its work after Easter, now that the *interim* report has been considered by the Board of Education and the Government.

On July 28th a communication was received from the Board of Education submitting, for the opinion of the College, “Proposals for a system of School certificates” for England. These proposals were framed by the Consultative Committee of the Board of Education

for organising a system of school certificates for the secondary schools of England, which would show that the holders had received a good general education, and passed an examination in the subjects of an approved curriculum. The communication was referred to the Committee of Management for consideration and report. The Royal College of Surgeons received a similar communication, and appointed a special Committee to deal with it; the report of the Committee of Management came before the College on December 8th, a discussion ensued, and on the motion for the adoption of the report Dr. Macalister moved that certain paragraphs be omitted. The mover and seconder of the motion agreed to the amendment, and the report was then adopted, and the following portions of the report were forwarded to the Board of Education as the opinion of the College on the subject :

After considering the proposals of the Consultative Committee of the Board of Education, the Committee of Management beg leave to report on them as follows :

They are of opinion that the special need for a reform of the existing system of testing the preliminary Education of Candidates for the various professions, which is the subject of the Head Masters' Memorial, should be considered as part only of a larger question, and dealt with in the way proposed in *Sections (1) and (2)* of the Scheme, namely, by instituting a comprehensive system of School certificates. The Committee of Management further agree with the Committee of the Education Board in believing that such a system, if generally accepted and loyally carried out, would not only meet the difficulties of teachers as explained by the Head Masters in a way more in accordance with prevailing educational opinion than by a uniform external examination, but that it would also, in the words of the Consultative Committee, "result in very substantial benefits to secondary and higher education in this country."

The Committee of Management would also express their approval of the following leading provisions of the Scheme :

Sections (3) and (4).—These provide for the recognition

by the Board of Education of *Examining Bodies* whose duty it would be to control the Examinations for School Certificates. The constitution of these *Examining Bodies*, in the view of the Consultative Committee, should be essentially academical. The Examining Bodies should consist of Representatives of a University or of a combination of Universities, provision being made for the association with them, where practicable and desirable, of the local Educational Authority (*Education Act*, 1902), and in all cases for the representation on them of School Teachers.

Section 5 provides for the *periodical inspection of Schools*, which present candidates for examination by any of the agencies sanctioned by *Section 3* of the Board of Education Act of 1899, and also for the communication of the School Curriculum and the results of the school inspection to the Examining Body.

Section (9).—This advocates the *keeping of a school record* of each scholar's work during his school career available for the inspection of his examiners if required.

These several proposals taken together are, in the opinion of the Committee of Management, likely to remove many difficulties in School Education, to provide a substantial educational advance, and to afford a test of general education more trustworthy than any external examination. They recognise that a good general education may be given on different courses of study; that examination should follow teaching on the lines of approved curricula, and that inspection should go hand in hand with examination. The principles on which the proposals are based are now generally accepted by educational authorities at home and abroad, and are already acted on by the University of London in its arrangements for the inspection and examination of schools and the granting of certificates which exempt from the Matriculation Examination, and to a large extent by the provisions of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board for the examination of schools and the granting of certificates which exempt from Responsions or the Previous Examination as the case may be. These existing certificates appear likely to be reciprocally recognised by the three Universities as equivalent and, under certain conditions as to the subjects of study, as carrying the exemptions above referred to.

Sections (6) and (7) deal with a matter of greater difficulty, namely, the maintenance of a uniformity of standard in these School Examinations, so that the certificate may

have a currency value wherever obtained, and be accepted as evidence that the holder has received a sound general education and is fit to enter on the higher studies of the University or on the more special and technical ones of the several professions without further examination. The Consultative Committee propose to effect this by means of a *Central Board* formed of Representatives from the Examining Bodies and the Board of Education.

It appears to the Committee of Management that the co-operation of the controlling authorities must be secured for this purpose in some such way, and that without a Central Board the working of the Scheme will prove unsatisfactory.

Lastly, the Committee of Management approve the proposal in Section (16) that Senior and Junior Certificates should be issued as meeting the requirements of pupils with different prospects in life.

24th October, 1904.

Royal Commission on the Care and Control of the Feeble-minded.—At the same Comitia a letter was received from the Secretary of the above Commission requesting the College to nominate Fellows or other physicians having experience of this class of person to give evidence before the Commission, and asking the College to express its views on the other subjects which came within the terms of the reference to the Commissioners. The letter was referred to a Committee consisting of the President, Drs. Ferrier, Coupland, Savage, Mickle, Fletcher Beach, and Mercier, whose report, which comes before you to-day, is as follows :

The questions addressed to the College by the Royal Commission are two, and are very different in scope and purpose.

The first is a request to the College to nominate to the Royal Commission persons who have had wide experience of a certain class of feeble-minded folk—namely, the prodigal and the facile—and who would be willing to give to the Commission specific instances of cases in which such prodigal and facile persons have wasted and squandered their means, have injured themselves and their families in substance and reputation by their prodigal and profligate mode of living,

and have become a burden and a nuisance, if not a positive source of danger, to their relatives and to the general community.

In response to this request, the Committee suggests that the following Fellows of the College and other experienced practitioners be nominated by the College to give the evidence required. As representing the College:—Dr. Savage, Dr. Ferrier, Dr. Fletcher Beach, Dr. Mickle, and Dr. Mercier.

Names of others whom it might be desirable for the Commission to examine:—Dr. Blandford, Dr. H. B. Corner, Dr. J. Wigglesworth, Dr. Bedford Pierce, Dr. J. M. Rhodes, Professor Clifford Allbutt, Dr. R. Langdon Down, Dr. G. E. Shuttleworth, Dr. C. Caldecott.

The second request is very wide and general in character. The College is asked to offer to the Royal Commission evidence and suggestions for adding to, amending, and remedying the defects of, the existing law, not merely as to the mode of dealing with the prodigal and facile, but in connection with any other matter coming within the terms of reference to the Commissioners, which are as follows:

“To consider the existing methods of dealing with idiots and epileptics, and with imbecile, feeble-minded, or defective persons not certified under the Lunacy Laws; and in view of the hardships or danger resulting to such persons and the Community from insufficient provision for their care, training, and control, to report as to the amendments in the law or other measures which should be adopted in the matter, due regard being had to the expense involved in any such proposals and to the best means of securing economy therein.”

It will be seen that the terms of reference are very wide, and that they are susceptible of more than one interpretation.

The words “dealing with” may be interpreted “obtaining control over,” or they may be held to signify “treatment of while under control”; or they may be construed as “providing accommodation for”; and other possible meanings suggest themselves. The Committee has considered the methods of “dealing with” the persons indicated, in so far only as “dealing with” implies “obtaining control over” their persons and property, and “providing accommodation for” them.

It is further to be noted that the classes of persons included in the terms of reference are divided into two groups, one consisting of "idiots and epileptics," the other of "imbecile, feeble-minded, or defective persons not certified under the Lunacy Laws." The Committee is not quite sure what description of persons the terms of reference intend to include under these several headings, nor is it sure that the descriptions, hereinafter given, characterise the same classes as are intended by the terms of reference; but, to avoid mistakes, the Committee, in using the following terms, uses them in the senses hereunder defined. Each of the classes so defined is composed of persons who are mentally defective in some respect which renders them a burden and a nuisance, if not a positive source of danger, to their relatives and to the general community.

"*Idiot*" means a person so deeply defective in mind from birth, or from an early age, that he is unable to guard himself from common physical dangers, such as prevent us from leaving young children alone.

"*Imbecile*" means a person who is capable of guarding himself against such common physical dangers, but who is incapable, by reason of mental defect, existing from birth or from an early age, of earning his own living.

"*Feeble-minded person*" means a person who is capable of earning a living under favourable circumstances, but is incapable, from mental defect, existing from birth or from an early age, (a) of competing on equal terms with his normal fellows; or (b) of managing himself and his affairs with ordinary prudence; such as the prodigal and the facile.

"*Moral imbecile*" means a person who displays from an early age, and in spite of careful upbringing, strong vicious or criminal propensities on which punishment has little or no deterrent effect.

"*Morally insane person*" means a person who, after many years of reputable life, all at once unaccountably exhibits vicious propensities, or takes to criminal courses.

"*Defective persons*" include all the classes hereinbefore defined, together with Epileptics and Habitual Drunkards.

Taking all the classes of defective persons *seriatim*, the Committee expresses the following opinions, which are to be understood to refer to such persons in England and Wales only.

1. *Idiots*.—The method of obtaining control, and the amount of control obtained, over idiots, as provided by the

Idiots Act 1886 is regarded by the Committee as sufficient and satisfactory.

The accommodation for the care of idiots is insufficient, except for idiots who are well to do.

2. *Epileptics*.—It is to be borne in mind that some epileptics are idiots, others are imbecile, others are insane, and others are sane. All that is said herein of idiots and of imbeciles applies without qualification to such idiots and imbeciles as are epileptic. Insane epileptics come within the scope of the Lunacy Act, 1890, which provides sufficient means of obtaining control over such epileptics. The accommodation for them is believed to be sufficient.

There are no legal means of obtaining control over sane epileptics, and this Committee is of opinion that no such control is needed. Many sane epileptics are quite capable of earning their own living, and do not satisfy the description of being “a burden and a nuisance, if not a positive source of danger, to their relatives and to the general community.” There is, however, a residue of sane epileptics who, by reason of the frequency, severity, or peculiar character of their fits, are not fitted for ordinary life. Many of these become a charge upon the State. It seems to the Committee desirable that labour colonies, which might be largely self-supporting, should be provided for these unfortunates.

3. “*Imbecile persons not certified under the Lunacy Laws.*” —The Committee regards the existing law (Idiots Act, 1886) as providing sufficient means for obtaining control over this class of persons. Any registered medical practitioner is competent to certify an imbecile under this Act, and all that has been said in this Report of Idiots applies to Imbeciles also. There is no difficulty in obtaining control over them, but the accommodation for them is deficient.

4. “*Feeble-minded and defective persons not certified under the Lunacy Laws.*” —The Committee includes under this heading the following classes:—Feeble-minded persons, Moral Imbeciles, and Morally Insane persons, all as hereinbefore defined, and Habitual Drunkards.

Feeble-minded and epileptic children can be educated under the Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act, 1899, 62 and 63 Vict., Ch. 32.

Provision for the education of such children is deficient. The Act gives the local school authority permission to provide schools for children of the elementary school class, but comparatively little advantage has been taken of this permission.

Neither in the Act mentioned, nor by any other legislation, is there power to obtain or maintain control over Moral Imbeciles in childhood, or over Feeble-minded persons or Moral Imbeciles after they have attained the age of sixteen, at which age their mischievous propensities begin to be important. The Committee is of opinion that such power is urgently needed, and that the power that is required is of two kinds, which should be provided separately.

For Moral Imbeciles it is requisite that power should be provided for obtaining control over their persons. They are not certifiable under the Lunacy Act, and if they were, the Lunatic Asylum is scarcely the proper place for them. Neither is the prison. Yet they not infrequently pass from the one to the other.

When power is given to control feeble-minded and defective persons not certified under the Lunacy Laws, power ought usually to be given at the same time to control their estate, if any ; but there are many cases in which the converse is not true. There are many feeble-minded persons who are quite competent to manage themselves, while incompetent to manage capably their pecuniary affairs. It seems to the Committee, therefore, desirable that power should be obtained to control the management of the estate of such persons, without necessarily interfering with their management of themselves.

The Committee is aware that Section 116 (*d*) of the Lunacy Act, 1890, does actually give the power of depriving of the control of their estate persons not certified as lunatics, and perhaps not so certifiable, and that it is probable that this sub-section might be applied to a considerable proportion of the cases under consideration. Nevertheless, the Committee is of opinion that further legislation is desirable, and founds its opinion on the following reasons :

- a.* There is some doubt whether persons who are congenitally deficient would come within the scope of a provision made for those who are incapable "through mental infirmity arising from disease or age."
- b.* The powers conferred by the sub-section are those only which are exercisable by the committee of the estate in the case of persons found lunatic by inquisition. It appears to the Committee that there are other powers, not ordinarily exercised by the committee of the estate, which might advantageously be given to deal with the estate of the persons under consideration.

c. The machinery is inappropriate. Proceedings under section 116 (*d*) of the Lunacy Act, 1890, must, of course, be taken "in Lunacy," and this necessity alone would render the section almost inoperative in practice, and this for two reasons. First, the friends of the persons under consideration have an insurmountable objection to bringing these persons under the operation of the Lunacy Law. Whether the objection is reasonable or no is not to the purpose. It exists, and exists so widely and in such strength as to deprive these persons of the benefit of the Statute. Second, it would probably be found difficult in practice to establish the necessity of interference without proving some degree of insanity, proof of which is, in many cases, impracticable, in many undesirable. The Committee is of opinion that the power to control the person of a Moral Imbecile, or the estate of a person of feeble mind, should be obtainable without recourse to the Lunacy Law, or to the authorities under that Law appointed.

Control of the person of a Moral Imbecile might be obtained in somewhat the same way as control of the person of a lunatic. Persons answering the description of Moral Imbeciles ought not, in the opinion of the Committee, to be treated as, or mingled with, lunatics, but should receive special treatment directed towards their moral reformation.

Control of the estate of a person of feeble mind might be obtained by application to a Court of Justice, *not being a Court of Lunacy*. It would not be necessary in all cases to deprive the feeble-minded person completely of the control of his estate. In appropriate cases he might be allowed to retain power over his income, or over such part of it as the Court might direct, while deprived of all power over his capital. There are cases in which he might properly be allowed in addition, a partial and modified control over his capital, the consent of a trustee or guardian appointed by the Court being made necessary to his dealing with his capital.

5. The *Morally Insane* constitute a large class of persons who now come under the purview of the criminal law, and form an appreciable portion of the prison population. The

Committee is not prepared to say that such offenders should go unpunished, but it cannot but regard them as morbid persons, not fully responsible for the crimes they commit. Before they come into the hands of the police their criminal propensities are often known to their friends, and, if means existed of obtaining control over such morally insane persons, crime, in many instances, would be prevented. Moreover, after their discharge from prison, the families of such persons are in the utmost perplexity. The offenders are at large; there are no means of obtaining control over them; and they are practically certain, if uncontrolled, to repeat their offences. The Committee is of opinion that they should be recognised and treated as insane.

6. *Habitual Drunkards*.—There is no class of persons who more seriously injure themselves and their families, nor any who become more a burden and a nuisance to their relatives than Habitual Drunkards, and the methods of dealing with them are most inadequate. No drunkard, not being a criminal, can be legally controlled except on his own application, and the application must be accompanied by formalities which are repellent, and in very many cases prevent the application being made, even when the drunkard would otherwise be willing. But in a still larger number of cases the drunkard is not willing to place himself under control. The Committee is strongly of opinion that power should be given, under proper safeguards against its misuse, to place Habitual Drunkards under control whether they so desire or no, and whether they are criminal or not, and to administer their estates. There is no adequate accommodation for the care of Habitual Drunkards of the poorer classes, and for criminal drunkards it is notoriously deficient.

To recapitulate :

Legislative power is deficient—

1. To obtain control over the persons of (a) Feeble-minded persons and Moral Imbeciles; (b) Morally Insane persons; (c) Habitual Drunkards.
2. To safeguard the property of (a) Feeble-minded persons and Moral Imbeciles; (b) Habitual Drunkards.

Accommodation is insufficient for—

- (a) Idiots and Imbeciles, Epileptic and Non-epileptic;
- (b) Sane Epileptics chargeable on the rates, and epileptic children of the elementary school class.
- (c) Feeble-minded persons and Moral Imbe-

ciles, both children and adult; (d) Habitual Drunkards.

W. S. CHURCH, *Chairman.*

February 22nd, 1905.

Committee of Management.—Besides the special reports already mentioned the College is greatly indebted to the Committee of Management for the care with which it discharges the ever-increasing work in connection with our examinations. During the past year the first year's curriculum and the first examination have been carefully revised, and both the courses of study and the examination have been somewhat extended, and embrace all subjects recommended in the resolutions of the General Medical Council. The amount of labour which this has entailed on the Committee of Management, and the constant supervision that is required in arranging the details of our examinations, and the courses of study and laboratory accommodation in the schools recognised by the College as places of study for the first examination, represent an amount of work which, I think, the Fellows hardly appreciate, and the College is very greatly indebted to those who undertake and so faithfully discharge these anxious and responsible duties.

Laboratories Committee.—The College will remember that in March, 1904, it adopted the report of the Special Committee of the two Colleges that the contract for the supply of antidiphtheritic serum to the Asylums Board should not be continued, and instructions were given to the Laboratories Committee to communicate this decision to the Asylums Board, and arrange for the discontinuance of the supply, and the termination of the services of the Staff.

In accordance with these directions the Laboratories

Committee entered into communication with the Asylums Board with the result that the Board has taken a lease, dating from January 1st, of that portion of the laboratories which has hitherto been set apart for the work of the Board, at a rental of £500 per annum, to include gas, electric light, water, heating, and repairs. The connection of the Royal College with the provision of antitoxin for the Asylums Board has not altogether been broken as their Presidents are *ex-officio* members of the Antitoxin Advisory Committee of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine "to consider and report upon important questions concerning the value and standardisation of various antitoxic and other sera."

A short review of the history and work of the laboratories and the Committee since their institution has been prepared by the Chairman, Dr. Pye-Smith, and will, it is hoped, be printed and issued to the College.

The Financial Position of the College.—I can congratulate the College on its greatly improved financial condition during the last three years. Our Treasurer has been able to report to the College considerable surpluses over expenditure, and we have been able to replace some of the investments which were sold out to meet expenses connected with the building of the Examination Halls. (The Report of the Conjoint Finance Committee shows a large decrease of £1584 15s. 7d. in the total receipts, caused partly by the falling off of the receipts from the second examination and diploma fees, and partly by the lesser amount received for the hire of rooms, the receipts from this cause being exceptionally high in 1903, the amount received during the past year not having fallen below the average.)

Censors Board.—Besides the ordinary business of the

Censors Board two questions came before it of some importance. The first arose from a letter received from a Fellow, inquiring if the resolution of the College passed on October 25th, 1888, viz.: "That it is undesirable that any Fellow or Member of the College should be officially connected with any company having for its object the treatment of disease," had been rescinded, and if it applied only to a "company" in a legal sense, and not to "a business having one or more private proprietors."

In his letter he explained that his question had reference to the connection which certain Fellows and Members had with private lunatic asylums, such connection appearing to him to fall within the terms of the above resolution, which had been acted on by the Censors Board, and their decision had been endorsed by the College in 1900, in the case of sanatoria for the treatment of tuberculosis, formed on a company or proprietary basis.

The Board informed him that the resolution alluded to had not been altered or rescinded, and accompanied that information with a letter explaining the reasons why the Board and the College regarded private lunatic asylums as on a different footing from sanatoria for the treatment of tuberculosis and other diseases.

The second question was that of a Licentiate of the College, whose name had been removed from the Medical Register by the General Medical Council on account of having been found guilty of obtaining money by false pretences. The Licentiate was summoned before the Board to show cause why the Censors should not recommend the College to revoke his license. A written statement, put in by him, having been considered, he was asked if he had any wish to state anything more. The Board reported to the College as follows :

The President and Censors, having had under consideration the case of a Licentiate who was convicted on his own confession at the Central Criminal Court in June, 1904, of having obtained money from the Wandsworth and Clapham Guardians by false pretences with intent to defraud, and having heard all that he had to say in extenuation of his offence, recommend the College to withdraw his license under the provision of Bye-law 188.

The College acted on the recommendation of the Censors Board, and removed the name of the Licentiate from the List.

Congresses.—During the past year the College has taken part in various congresses. The Annual Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute was held at Glasgow in July, and was attended by Sir R. Douglas Powell and Dr. Newsholme as delegates for the College. The first International Congress on School Hygiene was held at Nuremberg in April, 1904. Sir Lauder Brunton, who had acted as Chairman of the English Organising Committee, represented this College, and at the Comitia on May 12th read an interesting report of the proceedings and work of the Congress. The next meeting of the Congress is to be held in London in 1907, and I am sure that the College will hear with satisfaction that Sir Lauder Brunton had the honour of being elected President of the coming congress. As preparatory to the International Congress on School Hygiene of 1907, the Royal Sanitary Institute held a conference in February of the present year, to which it asked the College to send delegates. Sir Lauder Brunton and myself attended in that capacity, and you have heard his report of its proceedings.

The Privy Council have asked the College to nominate delegates to attend the International Congress on Medicine to be held at Lisbon in 1906. In reply to this communication the College inquired if the Privy

Council desired this College to nominate representatives for the British Government in accordance with the wish expressed in the Portuguese note sent on by it to us, or only delegates representing the College. The reply was that the Lord President of the Council desired the College to follow the precedent of 1903. In that year the delegates nominated by us were only regarded as the representatives of the College, and the English Government was not recognised as being represented at the Congress.

In the interests of British medicine, I have had an interview with the clerk of the Privy Council, and explained to him the singular position that Great Britain holds in these International Congresses by not being officially represented. I am in hopes that the information I was able to give, which the clerk undertook to communicate to the Lord President of the Council, may have the effect of placing British medicine on a proper footing at their congresses.

References from the College to the Council.—Two subjects of some importance were referred by the College to its Council for consideration and report. First a communication from the Royal College of Surgeons requesting the College to take into consideration Bye-law 117, forbidding any Fellow, Member, or Licentiate of the College not possessing a university degree to call himself “doctor.” The Council’s report will come before you at the next Quarterly Comitæ.*

* The Report was as follows :

“The Council recommend the College to omit from Bye-law 177 the words ‘assume the title of Doctor, or,’ printed in italics in the copy below :

“*Bye-law 177.*

“No Fellow, Member, Extra Licentiate, or Licentiate of the College shall *assume the title of Doctor, or* append to his name the title of Doctor of Medicine, or the letters M.D., or any other letters indicating that he is a Graduate of a

Secondly, a communication was received from Col. C. W. Long, M.P. for Evesham, requesting the College, either independently or conjointly with a committee of which he is chairman, to urge the Government to appoint a Commission of Inquiry into the prevalence of syphilis and its effects on the national health, and the necessity for more facilities for its treatment. The Council's report comes before you to-day, and is—

That the President with the Registrar be requested to write a letter to Colonel Long expressing the sympathy of the College with the humane purpose of his Committee in desiring the appointment of such a Commission, but stating that it has been so long the practice of the Government to refer questions of public health to the College for information and advice, that, in view of any such possible reference on this subject, the College is unwilling to move in the way suggested, deeming it best to retain its independence and its freedom of action.*

In conclusion, I have to thank the College officers, and more especially the Registrar, for the constant assistance I have received, not only during the past year, but ever since I have had the honour of presiding over you; and I most sincerely thank the College for the forbearance and consideration it has always shown me and the support it has given me.

My years of office have brought with them opportunities of making a closer and wider acquaintance with the Fellows of the College than I should otherwise have enjoyed, a privilege which I greatly value, and one which has been a constant source of pleasure.

When six years ago, most unexpectedly to myself,

University, unless he has obtained a degree entitling him to do so."

At the Comitia, on April 27th, the College refused to adopt the Report, and the Bye-law remains unaltered.

* The College adopted the Report.

the College placed me in the position of President, I entered on the duties of the office with many misgivings; if I have been able in a measure to fulfil them to your satisfaction, it is due to the manner in which the Fellows have, in their kindness, overlooked my shortcomings, and given me their hearty and loyal support.

By your votes I was placed in the responsible position of representing the profession, and I have endeavoured, to the best of my powers, to maintain the dignity of the College, and promote the highest interests of the profession.

Owing to the position in which, by your favour, I was placed, I have had to take part in two Royal Commissions, the South African Hospitals and the Arsenical Poisoning Commissions, and am at present serving on a Departmental Committee of the Board of Education. I have also taken part in the formation of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and acted as Chairman of its Executive Committee since its commencement. To my position in this College also is due the connection I have with the Hospital Sunday and King Edward's Hospital Funds, in the latter body I am Chairman of the Distribution Committee. I mention these facts, and might allude to others, not from any desire to magnify myself, but to show the confidence that the public and the Government have in the College, and how the Presidency bears with it many other duties than those strictly pertaining to the College.

It has always been my endeavour in these various positions to bear in mind that I was not representing myself, but the College and the medical profession. I venture to hope, from the fact that you have so often re-elected me as your President, that I have given the

College satisfaction during my term of office, a period to which, for the remainder of my life, I shall look back with pleasure, not so much on account of the high position in which you placed me as from the knowledge that, in the judgment of this College, my life had been such that I was not altogether unfitted for the great honour you conferred on me.

